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HISTORY OF
THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

1882 - 1932

by

WILLIAM CALDWELL CALHOUN

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1882-1932



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CAMP WILLIAMSON

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

1882-1932

By
WILLIAM CALDWELL CALHOUN



LACKAWAXEN TOWNSHIP

PIKE COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA

PRIVATELY PRINTED

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Printed in the United States of America

DEDICATED

TO

THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE MEMBERS OF THE FOREST
LAKE CLUB, WITH THE FERVENT HOPE THAT OLD
TRADITIONS, WHICH HAVE WORN WELL, MAY LONG
SURVIVE AND MARCH HAND IN HAND WITH
PROGRESS FOR THE SERVICE OF THE
COMING GENERATIONS.

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PREFACE

THE idea of writing a history of The Forest Lake Club has been in the minds of several of its members for a number of years and it is particularly appropriate that the history should be completed at this time inasmuch as the Club is to formally observe its fiftieth anniversary during the month of July, 1932. Historical facts readily become mere traditions, difficult to preserve with the swift passage of time; and it accordingly seemed advisable to take advantage of the opportunity to prepare a history while the records were still accessible and valuable data could be obtained from the present members. Accordingly Doctor William C. Calhoun graciously consented to undertake the task of preparing this book with the hope that it may prove of interest to the Club members and of some historic value in years to come.

It will readily be appreciated that a history of this character which covers a half century of a great variety of activities and transactions, necessarily presents numerous difficulties in the way of accurate correlation. Consideration was at first given to the idea of discussing in their order the five decades embracing the Club's history from its beginning to the present time, but it was finally determined that the various phases contributing to the growth of the

PREFACE

Club, considered separately and under the respective chapter headings of the volume, would be the preferable method of procedure.

It is impossible to over-estimate the vast amount of labor and research work undertaken by the author in the preparation of this book. In addition to a thorough study of the records contained in the minute books of the Board of Directors and of the various committees of the Club, the author interviewed many of the members with respect to the different aspects of the Club's activities and procured much valuable data from certain of the older members who helped to make the early history of our Club.

The undersigned members were appointed by the Board at its meeting in February, 1932, to arrange with Doctor Calhoun for the printing and distribution of this history. Our review of the mass of information studied and compiled by him convinces us that the Club is particularly fortunate in having had as its historian an author gifted with an easy and pleasing style and an ability to present the material in a most interesting and entertaining manner.

EVERETT W. GOULD,
ELMER R. GREGOR,
NORMAN R. FRAME.

The author is deeply grateful to those fellow members who have so heartily cooperated with him in the preparation of this history and he hereby takes the opportunity to publicly thank them for their aid and encouragement.

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RECORD OF OFFICERS

President

Alexander Hadden, M.D.	1883-1905
Wm. A. Avis	1906, 1907
Joseph Van Vleck, Jr.	1908-1910
John D. Weston	1911-1920
Henry S. Livingston	1921
Joseph M. Merrill	1921-1923
Henry S. Livingston	1924, 1925
William L. Archer	1926, 1927
John D. Mills	1928
Clarence C. Guion, M.D.	1929, 1930
William C. Mansfield	1931, 1932

Vice-President

William Johnston	1883, 1886-1890
Edward G. Black	1884, 1885
Charles Whitlock	1891
Benjamin F. Judson	1892, 1893
Charles R. Gregor	1894-1899
Joseph Van Vleck	1900-1903
George N. Williams, Jr.	1904, 1905
James A. Frame	1906, 1907
John D. Weston	1908-1910

RECORD OF OFFICERS

Vice-President (Continued)

Everett W. Gould, M.D.	1911-1917
Frank E. Davidson	1918
William L. DeBost	1919-1921
Henry S. Livingston	1922, 1923
William L. Archer	1924, 1925
John D. Mills	1926, 1927
William C. Mansfield	1928-1930
H. Rodger Elgar	1931, 1932

Treasurer

Edward G. Black	1883, 1886, 1887
Robert Betty	1884, 1885
Charles Whitlock	1888-1890
Wm. A. Avis	1891, 1892
Francis McMulkin	1893-1896
Samuel Coles	1897-1899
Wm. H. Rockwood	1900-1903
D. M. Van Vliet	1904, 1905
Charles S. Gregor	1906, 1907
Joseph Lahey	1908-1913
William C. Davidson	1914-1917
Richard Lahey	1918-1922
Richard W. Lahey	1923-1925
Herbert D. Brown	1926-1932

Secretary

George L. Lyon	1883, 1886-1888
Wm. W. Ladd	1884, 1885

RECORD OF OFFICERS

Secretary (Continued)

Frederick S. Wait	1889-1891
George N. Williams, Jr.	1892-1894
Wm. C. Davidson	1895-1905
Frank E. Davidson	1906-1908
Claude V. Pallister	1909, 1910
John F. Honness	1911-1914
Herbert D. Brown	1915-1920
Elmer R. Gregor	1921-1923
Bert W. Hendrickson	1924-1928
Norman R. Frame	1929-1932

Landscape Engineer

Alfred B. Ogden	1890-1892
George N. Williams	1893-1896
Jos. Van Vleck	1897-1907, 1911-1924, 1926-1932
Herbert D. Brown	1908-1910
Harold C. Williams	1925

Counsel

J. H. Van Etten	1883-1905
Elwin C. Mumford	1906-1918
James Gardner Sanderson	1919-1930
George R. Bull	1931, 1932

PRESENT MEMBERSHIP LIST

Members

Archer, William L. 24 Willow Ave., Larchmont, N. Y.
Bell, Amos S. 850 Lake St., Newark, N. J.
Board, Frederic Z. . . 130 W. Franklin Ave., Ridgewood, N. J.
Brackett, George F. 210 Heights Rd., Ridgewood, N. J.
Brobston, Joseph Nazareth, Pa.
Brown, Herbert D. . . . 133rd St. & Walnut Ave., New York City
Calhoun, William C., M.D. . . 200 West 93rd St., New York City
Campbell, Charles W. 269 Fifth Ave., New York City
Colburn, Myron L., Dr. 133 West 87th St., New York City
Colby, Safford K. . c/o Aluminum Co., of America, Oliver Bldg.,
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DeBost, William L. 1065 Sixth Ave., New York City
Dos Passos, Louis Hays 165 Broadway, New York City
Dyer, Frank L. 24 North Caldwell Ave., Ventnor, N. J.
Elgar, H. Rodger . 100 Old Mamaroneck Rd., White Plains, N. Y.
Foster, Howard Crosby . 932 Cedar Brook Rd., Plainfield, N. J.
Fountain, Gideon E. 17 East 42nd St., New York City
Frame, James A., Jr. Sasco Rd., Southport, Conn.
Frame, Norman R. 2700 Arlington Ave., Spuyten Duyvil,
New York City
Frame, William H. 41 Neperan Rd., Tarrytown, N. Y.
Gaines, John S., 2nd, M.D. . . . 200 West 71st St., New York City
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Graham, J. Monroe Old Short Hills Rd., Short Hills, N. J.
Gregor, Elmer R. Sasco Rd., Southport, Conn.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

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Hendrickson, Bert W. 80 Dellwood Rd., Bronxville, N. Y.
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Hurtzig, William G. 54 Morris St., Morristown, N. J.
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Johnson, Frederick M. c/o New York Life Ins. Co.,
51 Madison Ave., New York City
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Lahey, Richard W. 55 Poplar Place, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Lahey, William T. 1060 Park Ave., New York City
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Livingston, Graham 2501 Palisade Ave., Spuyten Duyvil,
N. Y. C.
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MacGregor, Charles S. 170 Broadway, New York City
Mansfield, William C. . . . 1203 Lexington Ave., New York City
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Metz, Arthur W. 696A Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, N. Y.
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Miller, John A. Nazareth, Pa.
Mills, John D. 75 Maiden Lane, New York City
Pelham, Arleigh 149 Broadway, New York City
Pelham, George F. . . . 87 Broadview Ave., New Rochelle, N. Y.
Pitcher, Charles R. 150 William St., New York City
Remey, W. Bertram 279 West End Ave., Ridgewood, N. J.
Reynolds, George W. . . . 78 Ridgewood Ave., Glen Ridge, N. J.
Smith, Charles J. 413—14th St., Honesdale, Pa.
Starbuck, William W. 55 John St., New York City
Starr, Alfred R., Jr., Dr. 8 West 40th St., New York City

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Stout, R. V. R. H. 2 Linden Place, Red Bank, N. J.
Tetor, Frederick A. 69 Wildwood Ave., Ridgewood, N. J.
Thomas, Mrs. Charles K. 310 Broad St., Red Bank, N. J.
Thomas, Charles K. 310 Broad St., Red Bank, N. J.
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Montclair, N. J.
Van Vliet, D. M. 444 West 7th St., Plainfield, N. J.
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White, Raymond P. 252 Hillside Place, Ridgewood, N. J.
Will, George W. 44 Wildwood Terrace, Glen Ridge, N. J.
Williams, Arthur D. 55 Greenacres Ave., Scarsdale, N. Y.
Williams, Arthur Donald, Jr. 55 John St., New York City
Williams, George N., Jr. . . 239 Fisher Ave., White Plains, N. Y.
Williams, Harold C. 239 Fisher Ave., White Plains, N. Y.

Associate Members

Beasley, David S. 123 Heights Rd., Ridgewood, N. J.
Bull, George R. Milford, Pa.
Dunham, Frederick C. 500 Fifth Ave., New York City
Freeman, Clayton E. . . . 83 Ridgewood Ave., Gren Ridge, N. J.
Hopper, Elmer J. 294 Bellair Rd., Ridgewood, N. J.
Jarrett, Robert E. 316 West 84th St., New York City
McClave, Mrs. Lucy W. . . 600 West 116th St., New York City
Roth, Raymond . . 129 Clarewell Ave., Upper Montclair, N. J.
Sisley, Edward J. Woodcliff Lake, N. J.
Toms, Madison L. Alvord Rd., Morristown, N. J.

History of
THE FOREST LAKE CLUB
1882-1932

History of THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

I

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

THE beautiful section of Pike County in which lies the domain of The Forest Lake Club is the most northern link of the Poconos of Pennsylvania, which, in turn, are part of the same family in the Appalachian Mountain chain, starting with the White and Green Mountains of New England and running down through the Adirondacks and Catskills of New York to the Blue Mountains of Virginia.

With the disappearance of the ice of the last glacial period many thousands of years ago, there was left scattered over this entire region of northeastern Pennsylvania, immense numbers of stones, rocks and boulders; to quote Carroll B. Tyson in his very interesting and instructive book ¹ "The Poconos," this "drift is of varying depths, from several hundred feet in some of the valleys, to a few feet or perhaps only an occasional boulder on some of the summits. Frequent depressions or 'kettle holes' occur in the drift, which, having become filled with water, now consti-

¹ By permission of Carroll B. Tyson.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

tute beautiful ponds and little lakes." Again he says, "Nature formed the plateau with its hills and mountains and valleys many millions of years ago; but she put on the finishing touches for us within the comparatively recent time of the last million years."

To quote once more the above-mentioned author, "Pennsylvania was originally one of the best, if not the very best, of wooded states in the eastern half of the country. . . . Practically the entire state, with the exception of a few natural meadows and several rough mountain tops, was originally covered with trees. . . . Sixty or seventy years ago this whole country was one great pine forest containing the finest white pine on the continent." While the pine predominates, there are said to be over sixty different kinds of native trees in the Poconos, and Mr. Elmer R. Gregor, naturalist and author, has listed fifty different kinds native to our own preserve. On the higher plateaus, and said to be especially abundant in Pike County, are found mountain ash, larch, spruce and fir. These are members of the northern forests. Along the rivers are found the river birch, sycamore, swamp hickory, silver maple and black walnut; while about the lakes the gray birch, among many other kinds, is abundant.

In 1923, according to Mr. Joseph S. Illick of the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters, there were in Pike County 261,118 acres of forest land or 38.3 acres to each inhabitant. The same author states that since 1898 there have been set out

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

nearly a million trees on the State Forests in Monroe and Pike Counties.²

And so, with these wonderful forest trees, wild flowers, plants, ferns and mosses, added to which, as "finishing touches" are our ponds and lakes and streams, we fortunate members of The Forest Lake Club have a setting that cannot be improved upon and scarcely equaled.

Of the original inhabitants of this region of ours we know nothing; but we do know that of the various eastern tribes of Indians, the Lenni-Lenape, more commonly known as the "Delawares," were the chief inhabitants of the Poconos before the coming of the white man. To the north of them in New York State were the "six nations" which embraced the Iroquois or "five nations" and the southern tribe of the Tuscaroras. Tradition relates that originally the Iroquois and the Lenni-Lenape were on friendly terms as they journeyed eastward together from beyond the Mississippi to reach the promised lands of their prophets. Later these two tribes became enemies and jealously guarded their chosen hunting grounds.

It is said that there was a strip of territory embracing the land between the Wallenpaupac and the Lackawaxen streams on the south, and the State line on the north, that was the disputed hunting ground of these two Indian tribes,³ and if this tradition be related to fact, our Club lands lie within this area.

² Referred to in "The Poconos," reproduced by permission of Carroll B. Tyson.

³ Referred to in "The Poconos," by Carroll B. Tyson.

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Imagination can readily picture some of the bolder spirits among the braves of these two tribes frequently adventuring into this forbidden region to hunt and fish in what are now our woods and lakes. Indeed, imagination does not have to be drawn upon to any great degree when we stop to consider the Indian names of places within our immediate vicinity. Lackawaxen, the little village along the stream of the same name, within ten miles of the Club, is so called from a corruption of "Lechawesnik" which signifies "where the roads part." On a memorial tablet in Lackawaxen, the State Department of Highways interprets the term Lackawaxen as "Swift Waters." Shohola is derived from "Schauwihilla," the Indian word meaning "weak," "faint," or "depressed," the significance of which, at least to us, is not clear. To bring the matter nearer home, we have, within a mile of the Club House, and practically touching on our own preserve, Lake Teedyuscong, named after a celebrated Delaware Indian Chief. To George H. Rowlands is given the credit for naming the lake. Chief Teedyuscong lived in the Pocono country all his life, and played a distinguished part during the border war in Revolutionary times. He was a man of marked intelligence, just and honest in his dealings with the whites, and inclined to peace rather than warfare with the invaders of his country. Lake Teedyuscong still has a "Chief" in the person of Daniel Carter Beard, head of the Boy Scouts of America and famous naturalist and author. It is

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

still a popular diversion for the young people of the Club to attend the Camp Fires at "Dan Beard's Camp."

The settlement by the white man of this part of the country although lying as it does within little more than one hundred miles of the metropolis, was, as time goes, a comparatively recent event; due largely, in all probability, to its rugged wild nature and its unsuitability to agricultural pursuits. According to Egle's "History of Pennsylvania," the earliest white settlement in Pike County was made along the Delaware River below Milford by a party of Hollanders who came from Esopus (now Kingston) in New York State. The precise date is unknown, but it was at a period previous to the arrival of William Penn. The next settlement, according to the same author, was made at what is now Mast Hope. Here a cabin was built by a party of hunters and trappers, a clearing made, and a number of apple trees set out. This was sometime between 1729 and 1740. This was afterwards claimed as Manor land and the present owners of the property have the deed in their possession bearing the Proprietaries' Seal. Mathews' "History of Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties," states that one of the earliest settlements in our immediate vicinity is supposed to have been made about the year 1757 by a man named Carter who with his family lived along the bank of the Wallenpaupac Creek,⁴ a branch of the Lackawaxen

⁴ *Lake Wallenpaupac*, lying south of Hawley, is the result of the damming of this stream.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

dividing Wayne and Pike Counties. Within a short time Carter was killed by the Indians whose land he had invaded, and it was not until shortly before the Revolution that any other settlers ventured into these parts. Among the records of the earliest settlers of this part of Pike County occur the names of John Van Etten, Herman RosenKranz,⁵ Henry Decker, Cornelius Case, John Williamson, George H. Rowlands, and William Holbert; not only have these been handed down to our day in the names of places in the vicinity of the Club as, for instance, RosenKranz' Corner, Casetown, Decker's Mills and Rowlands, but the names of the descendants, either direct or collateral, of William Holbert, John Van Etten, and John Williamson all appear in the Club's earliest records having to do either with its actual incorporation or the purchase of its property. Some of the Club members of the present day are not so familiar with the little villages of Lackawaxen, Rowlands, and Mast Hope, which lie nearest to us, as were those of the era before the coming of the motor car, in the days when everyone came up by railroad. These old towns have become so much a part of the nomenclature of the Club that it seems fitting to tell something of their early settlement.

Lackawaxen township lying in the northwest corner of Pike County was erected in 1798. Pike

⁵ The name of Herman RosenKranz appears in the original petition of what later became the township of Upper Smithfield (Milford), this including nearly all of Pike County about 1750. His son, Jacobus Rosencrans, probably was born in Westfall township and lived neighbor to old Jacobus Van Aken. He owned a large farm near the Delaware.

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

County was named in honor of Major Zebulon Montgomery Pike, who, under orders from the United States Government, carried on a series of explorations in the then Western Territories during the years 1805, 1806 and 1807. This intrepid explorer discovered the sources of the Mississippi, Arkansas, Kansas, La Platte and the Pierre Juan rivers, and it was from him that Pike's Peak derived its name. Major Pike was killed at the battle of York near Ontario, April 27th, 1813, and was buried at Sacketts Harbor. Pike County, at its organization, comprised the townships of Middle Smithfield, Delaware, Upper Smithfield, Lackawaxen, and Palmyra.

Jonathan Conklin and James Barnes are said to have been the first settlers at the site of the present village of Lackawaxen, the former on the south side and the latter on the north side of the mouth of the Lackawaxen river where it enters the Delaware. This occurred before the Revolution, or more than twenty years before the township was mapped out.

The children of Jonathan Conklin were four sons, John, Lewis, Benjamin, and Absalom, all of whom were said to have lived to a great age; and four daughters, Thyre, Tamar, Lydia and Frelove. Strange as it may appear, the Conklin name is said to have become extinct in the region. John Barnes had four sons of whom descendants may be found among the people of this section up to the present day.

Lackawaxen seems to have been the center from

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

which in its early history sprang the nearby settlements of Mast Hope and Rowlands. A William Holbert who lived at Lackawaxen was among the early settlers of Mast Hope about the year 1800, and it was from his grandson, William Holbert, that the Club made its first purchase of land.

According to a reference in Mathews' "History of Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties," Mast Hope was originally called Sim's Point, after Simeon Westfall, the first child born in the settlement. Doubt has been thrown on this statement, however, because of later information from two different sources showing Sim's Point to be a settlement at the present time near Casetown, which is several miles back of Mast Hope. Apparently, then, the original name of the town was Mast Hope, but here again we meet with divided opinion, this time regarding the origin of the name. One version has it thus: It is said that an old Indian Chief and his tribe held the whole ridge overlooking the settlement and the village was named "Maseope" after him (later Masthope, the derivation). The second and probably truer version is the following: At the time of the building at Philadelphia of the frigate Constitution, a party of men journeying up the Delaware in search of trees suitable for its masts, finally arrived at Westfall's without having accomplished their object. They were discouraged and about to return when Westfall told them he could show them some timber that would come up to their specifications. He thereupon con-

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

ducted them to the spot where they found the tall straight pines for which they had been searching. And so the name Mast Hope. It is the opinion of the author that the name Mast Hope, of itself, is fairly convincing of the correctness of the latter version of its origin.

In the year 1867, there was a bad wreck at Mast Hope. A freight train took the switch there for a passenger train known as Number 3 which passed Lackawaxen westbound about midnight. On this night, Number 3 was late, the freight took the switch and the engineer fell asleep. He awakened after a time, and supposing Number 3 had gone past, proceeded to pull out of the switch. Just as he got out on the frog with his engine, Number 3 came along at high speed and crashed into them. Nineteen persons were burned and the station was also destroyed.

At this time it is said the name was changed to Pine Grove to dim the memory of the fatal wreck. The change to this latter name was doubtless considered appropriate also, because of a beautiful pine grove situated in the vicinity of the present station. The name Pine Grove remained until 1886 when it was again changed back to Mast Hope, several members of The Forest Lake Association being among the the petitioners for this latest change of name as appears in a minute of a Directors' meeting. Mast Hope will always be associated in the minds of The Forest Lake Club members of the present generation

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with that genial and kindly gentleman, the late John H. Joyce, who for so many years served as station agent and postmaster. Mr. Joyce will long be remembered as a good friend of the Club.

At about the time of the above-mentioned railroad accident, the only means of transportation, aside from the railroad, was the old plank road running to Honesdale—the old Coach Line. There was no Hawley branch of the railroad then and there was much controversy about putting it through from Mast Hope, as the distance was much shorter from that point. The Coach Line gave rise to the old Selden Hotel, known as “Selden Manor.” The history of this house is, briefly, as follows: David Selden, the grandfather of the present owner, bought in 1848, three thousand acres in and around Mast Hope. “Selden Manor” was built and finished in 1853—opened to the public July 4th of that year and was run as a hotel for five years. The house is said to be a copy of a home in England belonging to the Selden family. It contains many interesting old fireplaces with marble mantels obtained from the present owner’s grandfather’s marble quarries in Vermont, and huge rooms and corridors. Of interest also, is the fact that the mantels were cut by the firm of Robert I. Brown & Son, respectively the grandfather and father of our fellow Club member, Herbert D. Brown. David Selden also built the plank road above referred to.

The old mill house property along the brook, be-

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

tween Mast Hope and Forest Lake, was a lumber mill of five small buildings known as the Jacoby Mill and this mill furnished most of the lumber used in the old Selden house.

All this country was a lumber country. Lumber mills were on or near most of the lakes of The Forest Lake Club. One of these mills stood near the outlet of Forest Lake and was owned and operated for many years by Mr. William F. Holbert from whom our first tract of land was purchased. Part of the original foundation can still be seen though the mill was out of commission for almost thirty years before the Club came into existence. A dam had been built at the outlet of the lake to furnish power for running the mill and part of this old dam was utilized by the Club when the present dam was constructed in 1908. A large house was erected nearby and conducted by Mr. Holbert as a boarding house for the employees of the mill, about forty in number. This building stood on the "Old Farm" and was not, properly speaking, a farm house. Further mention is made later on of this "Old Farm." Mr. Holbert is said to have had a saw mill later at Case's Mills and he it was, also, who built the Delaware House at Lackawaxen.

The old Weaver Tavern came somewhat later and stood on the site of the present Joyce home. One Julius Sharff was the proprietor of this tavern during the early days of the Club. Julius was born in Saxony, Germany, the son of a shoemaker and one of eight children, and came to America with no capital

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

at all. He had served in the German army, was married and had six children. Shortly after the arrival of the family in Narrowsburg, his wife died and later Julius married again. There were five children by the second marriage. Coming from Narrowsburg to Mast Hope, he served as baggageman and switchman for about six years and then bought the tavern from one John Holbert who had purchased it from Weaver. It was known as Julius' Tavern and was famed for its excellent rice beer. At the same time he ran the general store.

The spring of the year was "rafting time" and Julius' golden opportunity. The huge rafts, made up of countless logs, each raft manned by half a dozen or more men, were floated down the river to Port Jervis. An average raft of round timber was 65,000 feet. Of sawed lumber, sometimes 200,000 feet were carried on one raft. These rafts invariably stopped at the Mast Hope "Eddy" where the men put up at Julius' over night. He is said to have had as many as fifty or sixty men there at one time and the bar-room floor was utilized for sleeping quarters when the festivities were at an end.

It is said that Julius pressed his whole family into service on these occasions to help keep the plates and glasses filled and one can imagine the clog dancing, singing and general hilarity that lasted until the early hours of the morning. In spite of this, the raftsmen were up at the break of dawn and off down the river.



ON THE OLD CANAL NEAR LACKAWAXEN

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

The old Delaware presented a lively scene in those days and it was a gala day for Mast Hope when the rafts were seen approaching the town. Occasionally a girl or woman would be permitted to ride on the raft from Mast Hope to Port Jervis with one of her men folks and this, naturally, was considered a signal honor and a great piece of luck. Then, when the last raft had disappeared around the bend of the river Julius would return to his tavern and prepare for the next crowd of "rivermen." At one time Julius owned five dwelling houses in the village, besides his store and tavern. The tavern burned down about forty years ago, some time before Julius died, and he then moved into the store building, still standing, which was known as Julius' store.

In the old days of the wagon and horse-stage, the Club members were always known to the villagers as the "Forest Lakers" and Julius was popularly known to the Club members as the "Mayor of Mast Hope."

As out of Lackawaxen came the first settlers of Mast Hope, so, from the same center some years later, came George H. Rowlands, after whom the town of Rowlands was called, and who, as a boy, had come to Lackawaxen with his parents about the year 1828. The elder Rowlands had been engaged in lumbering, merchandising, and in the construction of the Delaware and Hudson canal which was being built at

NOTE: The above story of Julius' Tavern in "rafting time" was obtained through the courtesy of Miss Doris Joyce from conversations had with some of the oldest inhabitants of Mast Hope, and from some biographical sketches of its earliest settlers.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

about this time; so he was evidently a citizen of substance and prominent in his community.

George H. Rowlands, as a young man, struck out for himself and settled about four miles up the Lackawaxen River, where, as has been said of him, "he carved out a home and fortune on the side of the mountain, with store, farm and mill." He was elected to the State Legislature for several terms, during one of which he served as Senator.

The bridge across the Lackawaxen at Rowlands over which so many of us drive on our way to the Club, is the third one constructed within the present century. The original bridge was built by the inhabitants of that section as a toll bridge, and, while it was apparently paying for itself, the opinion of the community seemed to be that the company that built it should be reimbursed for its cost by the township. The dispute finally became a court proceeding, dragging along for a number of years, during which time, on two occasions, the bridge was destroyed by floods. A decision was finally handed down against the township and it was assessed for the entire costs.

Of the larger towns of Hawley and Honesdale with which most of us are familiar, the following short sketches are offered:

One Reuben Jones with his two brothers, Alpheus and Alexander, and a sister, the "Widow Cook," are said to have been the first settlers of Hawley. Reuben had been taken prisoner by the Indians and held captive for nearly a year, finally escaping in the

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

following dramatic way: He was an exceedingly strong and agile man and became on very friendly terms with his Indian captors by entering into their tests of endurance and fleetness. He knew well his own capacities and having allowed his competitors on several occasions to worst him, he took advantage of an opportune time to once more challenge them and this time, in earnest, easily outdistanced them, finally finding his way back to the Wallenpaupac. He located, then, as above related, at the "Paupac Eddy" just below the mouth of Middle Creek, where one Benjamin Haines and others soon joined the Jones family in the little settlement. About the year 1850, Paupac Eddy became Hawleysburgh and the next year the name was simplified to Hawley. This was in honor of General Irad Hawley, the first president of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and who was instrumental in improving the canal facilities at Hawley where the coal en route to tidewater was transferred from the railroad to the canal. The coming of the Delaware and Hudson Canal had already started Hawley on its way to prosperity and this was enhanced in 1850 by the completion of the Pennsylvania Coal Company's Gravity Railroad. This road ran a distance of forty-seven miles from its eastern terminus at Hawley to Port Griffith, located on the North Branch Canal and the Susquehanna River. In 1885 the "Gravity Road" was replaced by a steam road. The Hawley branch of the Erie was built in 1863. The Delaware and Hudson

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

Canal Company also had its "Gravity Road" built in 1829 about a year later than its canal and running from Honesdale to Carbondale, a distance of about sixteen miles. This road, which was also converted into a steam locomotive road, in 1899, is the one referred to by the old-timers when they reminisce about the parties made up at the Club for a trip on the "Gravity Road."

Honesdale, the largest town nearest the Club, was named after the Honorable Philip Hone, at one time New York's chief executive. He was the principal promoter in the construction of the Delaware and Hudson canal and its first President. The site of Honesdale lies on parts of two tracts of land formerly known as the "Indian Orchard" and "Schoonover" tracts. The first of these covering several thousand acres was granted by the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania about 1765 to Captain Jonas Seeley, a former officer in the Colonials during the French and Indian War, sometimes known in Eastern Pennsylvania as "Teedyuscong's War." The name "Indian Orchard" arose from the fact that within this tract of land lay a famous apple orchard that had originally been planted by the Indians. The Schoonover Tract was granted to William Schoonover by the state about 1805 and contained about 800 acres. Contradictory rumors concerning the location of the canal head lead to a small "boom" on parts of the two tracts and two separate settlements were started

EARLY REGIONAL HISTORY

which only after several years came together to form one town.

The first steam locomotive to run in America was tried out at Honesdale on August 8th, 1829. This was the famous "Stourbridge Lion," built in England and brought to this country by the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company for use on the road, then under construction, extending from Honesdale to Carbondale. The rails were of wood, the running surface protected by wrought iron straps, two and one-half inches wide. The track as then constructed was found to be inadequate to sustain the weight and thrust of the "Lion" and, after a second trial the following month, the plan to use locomotives was abandoned for a number of years.

To complete the sketch of the region surrounding the Club, the little town of Greeley must not be omitted. About the year 1840, one Mahlon Godley owned a tract of land containing about 7,000 acres and lying about six miles from Lackawaxen and four miles from Rowlands. Shohola Creek, famous at that time as a trout stream, ran through this property, and a frame house, a log cabin and a planing mill comprised what was then known as Godleyville.

At this time, Horace Greeley, who, by lecture and editorial had worked up among many of his followers a desire to test Fourierism, a French communistic idea, looking about for a likely location for the experiment, chose Godleyville and bought the 7,000 acres for \$10,000.00. Several prominent people,

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

among them Edwin Forrest, the celebrated actor, held an interest in the project, but Mr. Greeley himself was by far the largest shareholder. It was known by the name of the Sylvanian Society or Sylvania Phalanx Society and immediately upon securing control of the property, a community house was built with a common dining hall, plans were made for cultivating the land, factories for the manufacture of wagons and shoes were erected, and the wheels of industry hummed. The main idea was equality of living and an equal division of labor. The men, with land cultivation and factory work, and the women with household duties, were set certain tasks turn and turn about.

For two or three years the community thrived and in the years 1842 and 1843 it numbered about three hundred people. For a season or so thereafter the crops failed to yield an adequate return and in the spring of 1845 an intensive effort was made to wring a living from this unusually rocky and unfertile soil. The effort was a success and such crops were produced that it seemed as if the lean years had passed and the years of plenty had begun.

On the morning of the fourth of July, 1845, the sight that greeted the eyes of the communists was one to make the angels weep. The worst frost ever known in this section of the country before that time or since, had completely ruined the crops and nothing but a withered, blackened, desolated scene lay before them. Within a few days the place was de-

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sented, the communists had gathered together their personal belongings and like the Arab and his folded tent, had quietly stolen away.

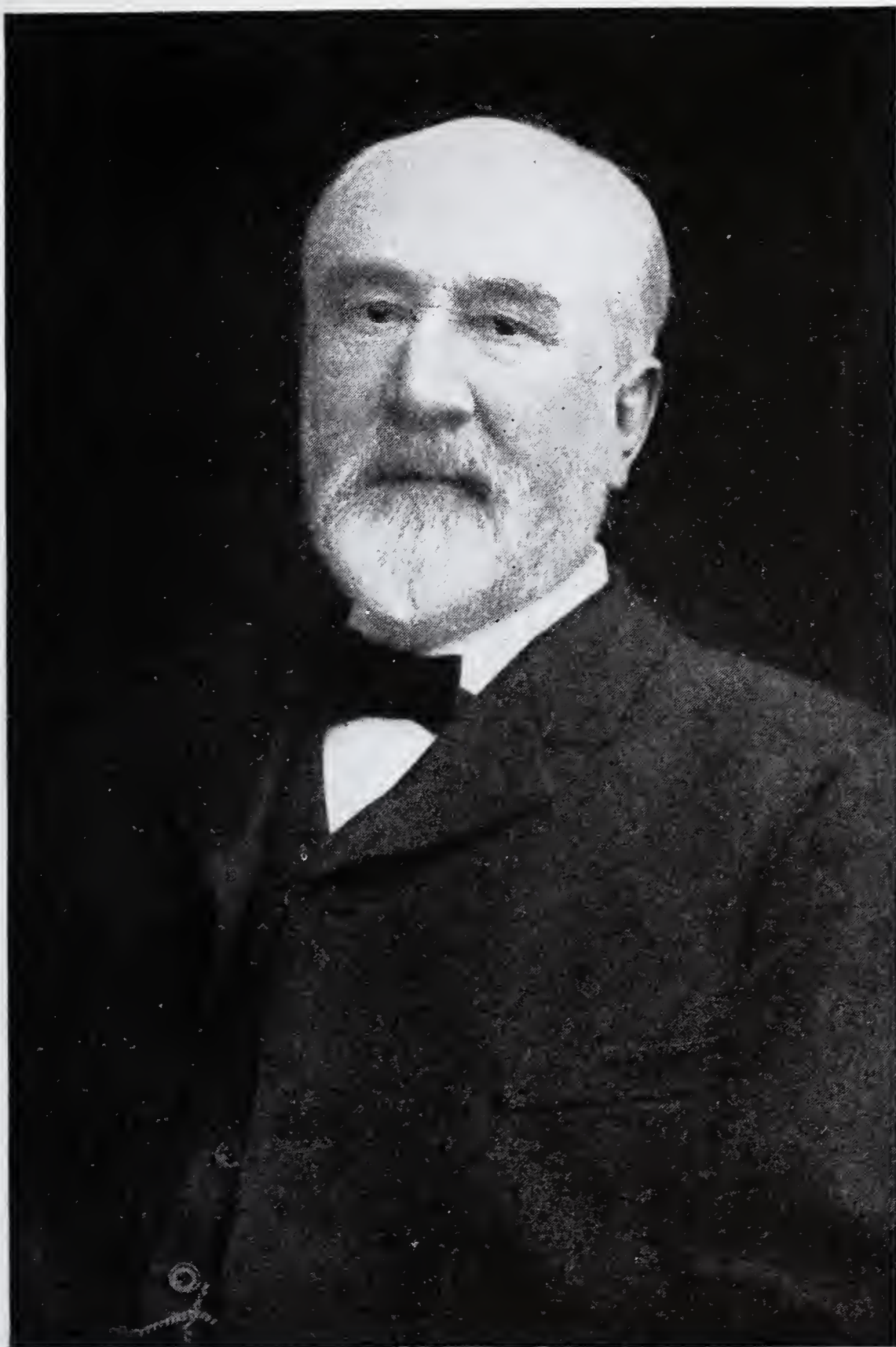
There sprang up, following this, a small community, devoted mostly to summer residences and hotels; quite attractive and named, of course, after the great Editor. Today, on passing through, we may note a hotel bearing the name "Sylvania Lodge," the only link, apparently, to connect this interesting experiment with the present time.

This section of the country, a little more than a hundred years ago, was one great forest, unscathed alike by fire or the lumberman's axe until the coming of the white settlers. Lumbering then became, as a matter of course, the principal industry and was carried out on a tremendous scale. It is estimated that fifty million feet of lumber and logs were run down the Delaware annually, some years prior to 1885. What with the wholesale lumbering operations carried on over so many years and the havoc wrought by forest fires time and again, it is not to be thought strange that so little of the original forest remains. And yet, apparently, growth has succeeded growth to such an extent that our broad acres are still wonderfully wooded, while here and there can still be found ancient forest trees, at least some evidence of nature's escape from man's destruction.

II

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

THE idea of forming a fishing club, which we were originally, came about in this way. Among a number of men who were ardent fishermen and lovers of the out-of-doors and who sensed the possibilities of this section of the country as fulfilling their desires in this direction, were Dr. Alexander Hadden, a prominent New York City physician, and Robert Betty, a dry goods merchant, also of New York. William Hadden, a brother of the doctor, was living at this time near Rowlands, and it was through John M. Williamson of Lackawaxen, one of this coterie of fishing enthusiasts and a real estate operator, that he heard of a tract of about 1500 acres which was for sale and which belonged to a William Holbert. This information was conveyed to Dr. Hadden, who, in turn, discussed the matter with Mr. Betty, and it was these two gentlemen who are said to have been responsible for the first steps taken toward the purchase of land. The purchase was made some time in 1881 through Mr. Williamson for the sum of \$2,200.00. An interesting side light on this point is the fact that from 1784 to 1792 the price of unimproved state land in Pike County was \$26.66 $\frac{2}{3}$ a hundred acres. From 1792 to 1809 it



A. H. H. H.

FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

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was \$6.66 $\frac{2}{3}$ a hundred acres and in 1809 the price was again increased by law to \$26.66 $\frac{2}{3}$. At this time what is now Pike County was a part of Wayne County, and it was not until 1814 that it became a separate county.¹ These 1500 acres, our first purchase, included Big Corilla, Little or Round Corilla (our present Forest Lake) the site of the present Club House and Mount Ogden.

In the early spring of 1882, shortly after acquiring this land and a few months prior to the incorporation of the Club, the first building was erected and called Camp Williamson after the above-mentioned John M. Williamson through whom the purchase of the property was made. Camp Williamson was located on Big Corilla near the present Williams boat house. It was a one-story frame building about 35 feet long, having several bunks in one end for sleeping quarters and a combined kitchen and dining room at the other end.

A diminutive colored man was established as cook and general factotum and the daily menu was said to have consisted principally of ham and eggs, salt pork and hot soda biscuits; the biscuits apparently were the permanent piece de resistance and the board for this elaborate layout was five dollars a week.

These lakes of ours had probably tempted the disciples of Izaak Walton ever since the white man first settled in these parts, and undoubtedly many of

¹ Wayne County originally included what is now Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

the men who made up the small coterie that originally conceived the idea of this rendezvous had fished our waters time and again. The late Frederick D. Storey stated in the writer's hearing that they were known to him years before there was any thought of a Club. Knowing Mr. Storey's fishing reputation it would probably be more difficult to find the places where he had not fished than where he had.

Fishing, then, was unquestionably the main diversion of our first Club members and indeed it remained so for very many years. One can imagine during the time Camp Williamson was used as headquarters, the discussions and arguments that must have gone on and the yarns spun by these enthusiastic fishermen through the long summer evenings ere they emptied the last pipes of the night and turned in, perchance to dream of the big one they didn't land. It is said that occasionally the dreams were rudely interrupted by mosquitoes and the campers driven to take refuge in a hay barn that stood nearby, the fact having been recognized that the tormenting little insects would not venture near hay, they being subject, doubtless, to attacks of hay fever.

But man was not meant to fish alone and so, quite naturally, with the building and occupation of the camp house there arose a desire to erect more adequate quarters that the families might be given a share in the enjoyment of this delightful place. Before, however, any definite plans were made to build a club house, it was decided to form a permanent

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

organization. Accordingly, steps were taken to incorporate the Club and apply for a charter. The Forest Lake Association was incorporated July 12th, 1882, under the laws of Pennsylvania, the charter of which was subsequently amended July 18th, 1906, changing the name to The Forest Lake Club.

THE ORIGINAL CHARTER FOLLOWS:

Be it known that the subscribers having associated themselves together for the purpose of preserving and propagating fish, and otherwise as hereinafter set forth, and being desirous of becoming incorporated agreeably to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act to provide, and for incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved the twenty-ninth day of April, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, and its supplements, do hereby declare, set forth and certify that the following are the purposes, objects, articles and conditions of the said Association, for and upon which they desire to be incorporated:

First—The name of the incorporation shall be THE FOREST LAKE ASSOCIATION.

Second—The purposes for which the Association is formed are, the preservation and propagation of fish and game, the maintenance of a private park and of facilities for hunting, fishing and other athletic sports and the maintenance of a Club for such purposes and for social enjoyments.

Third—The place where the business of the said corporation is to be transacted is Lackawaxen Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania.

Fourth—The corporation is to exist perpetually.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

Fifth—The names and residences of the subscribers and the number of shares subscribed by each are as follows:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Residence</i>	<i>Shares</i>
ROBERT BETTY	New York City	One
WM. W. LADD, JR.	"	"
ALEXANDER HADDEN	"	"
EDWARD G. BLACK	"	"
THOMAS G. WALL	"	"
ALFRED B. OGDEN	"	"
FRED ALDHOUSE	"	"
JOHN H. HINTON	"	"
ALFRED B. SCOTT	"	"
JAMES V. S. WOOLEY	"	"
DANIEL LEWIS	"	"
DANIEL SCHOONOVER	"	"
JOHN C. UMBERFIELD	"	"
CLARK H. McDONALD	"	"
DAVID WEBSTER	"	"
WALTER EDWARDS, JR.	"	"
GEORGE B. PELHAM	"	"
CHARLES R. GREGOR	"	"
CHARLES WHITLOCK	"	"
CHARLES D. BELDEN	"	"
FRED S. WAIT	"	"
HENRY W. BOOKSTAVER	"	"
ANDREW MILLS	"	"
FRANCIS C. REED	"	"
FRANK P. FOSTER	"	"
SAMUEL M. SPROLE	Brooklyn, N. Y.	"
JAMES H. DONALDSON	New York City	"
J. H. VAN ETEN	Milford, Pa.	"
WILLIAM HADDEN	Rowlands, Pa.	"
JOHN M. WILLIAMSON	Lackawaxen, Pa.	"

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

Sixth—The affairs of said corporation shall be conducted by a Board of thirteen Directors, to be elected from among and by the stockholders, in such manner and at such times as the By-Laws, made in pursuance of said Act of Assembly, shall specify. For the first year, or until an election is held, the following named persons shall be and act as said Board of Directors, and their names and residences are as follows:

ALEXANDER HADDEN	New York City
JAMES V. S. WOOLEY	"
THOMAS G. WALL	"
FRANK P. FOSTER	"
CHARLES WHITLOCK	"
GEORGE B. PELHAM	"
EDWARD G. BLACK	"
WILLIAM W. LADD, JR.	"
ALFRED B. OGDEN	"
DANIEL LEWIS	"
ROBERT BETTY	"
FREDERICK ALDHOUSE	"
ALFRED B. SCOTT	"

Seventh—The amount of the capital stock of the said corporation is three thousand dollars, divided into thirty shares of the par value of one hundred dollars. Witness our hands and seals this eighth day of July, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

ROBERT BETTY	(Seal)
WM. W. LADD, JR.	(Seal)
ALEXANDER HADDEN	(Seal)
JOHN M. WILLIAMSON	(Seal)
WILLIAM HADDEN	(Seal)
J. H. VAN ETEN	(Seal)

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA }
County of Pike } ss.

Before me, the Recorder of Deeds in and for the
County aforesaid, personally came the above named

WILLIAM HADDEN

JOHN M. WILLIAMSON

J. H. VAN ETTEN

who in the form of law acknowledged the foregoing
instrument to be their act and deed for the purposes
therein specified.

Witness my hand and seal of office the
(Seal) twelfth day of July, A.D. 1882.

JNO. C. WESTBROOK

Recorder.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA }
County of Pike } ss.

Personally appeared before me this twelfth day of
July, 1882, J. H. Van Etten, who being duly sworn
according to law, deposes and says that the statements
contained in the foregoing instrument are true, and
that William Hadden, John M. Williamson and J. H.
Van Etten, three of the subscribers to the foregoing
instrument are citizens of the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania.

J. H. VAN ETTEN.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this
twelfth day of July, 1882.

JNO. C. WESTBROOK,
Proth'y.

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS }
For the County of Pike }

Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to his Honor, Charles P. Waller, President Judge of said Court, on Wednesday the twelfth day of July, 1882, at 2 o'clock p.m., at his Chambers in Honesdale, Pa., under an Act of Assembly of this Commonwealth, entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations" approved April 29, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the charter of an intended corporation to be called the "Forest Lake Association," the character and object of which are the preservation and propagation of fish and game, the maintenance of a private park, and furnishing facilities for hunting, fishing and other athletic sports, and the maintenance of a Club for such purposes and for social enjoyments, and for those purposes to have, possess and enjoy, all the rights, benefits and privileges of the said Act of Assembly and its supplements thereto.

J. H. VAN ETTEN

Solicitor

June 20, 1882.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA }
County of Pike } ss.

M. D. Mott, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor and publisher of "The Milford Dispatch," a newspaper of general circulation, published in the Borough of Milford, in the County of Pike aforesaid, and the only newspaper published in said County. That the annexed notice of intention to apply for a charter of "The Forest Lake Association" was published therein for three succes-

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

sive weeks prior to the 12th day of July, A. D., 1882, to wit, in the issues of June 22nd, 29th and July 6th, A. D. 1882.

M. D. MOTT.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this tenth day of July, A. D., 1882.

JNO. C. WESTBROOK,
Proth'y.

In the Matter of the Application
of
THE FOREST LAKE ASSOCIATION
for Incorporation

And now to wit, July 12th, A. D., 1882, it appearing to me, Charles P. Waller, President and law Judge in and for the County of Pike, that the publication of notice of the intention to apply to me at this time, for a charter of incorporation of The Forest Lake Association, has been made according to law, and having perused and examined said instruments in writing, specifying the objects, articles and conditions, and name, style, or title under which the subscribers have associated, and the same being in proper form and within the purposes named in the first class, specified in the second section of the within mentioned Act of twenty-ninth of April, A. D., one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, and the supplements thereto, and the objects, articles and conditions therein set forth and contained, appearing to be lawful and not injurious to the community, and no sufficient reason being shown to the contrary, it is on motion of J. H. Van Etten, Esq., *Ordered and Decreed*, that the within charter be and is approved, and that upon the record-

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

ing of the said charter and this order, the subscribers thereto and their associates shall be a corporation, for the purposes and upon the terms therein stated, and do further direct that this order and charter be recorded in the office for the recording of deeds, in and for the County aforesaid, and from thenceforth the persons named therein and subscribing the same, and their associates and their successors, shall be a corporation by the name therein given.

CHARLES P. WALLER

President Judge.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA }
County of Pike } ss.

Recorded in the Recorder's Office of said County, in Deed Book No. 39, page 441, etc., the 13th day of July, A. D., 1882.

JOHN C. WESTBROOK,

Recorder.

Per H. G. W.

BY-LAWS

I

NAME

This Association shall be known as "The Forest Lake Association."

II

OBJECTS OF ASSOCIATION

The objects of the Association are the maintenance of a private park and of facilities for hunting, fishing and other athletic sports, and the maintenance of a club for such purposes, and for social enjoyments and the preservation of forests and the preservation and propagation of fish and game.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

III

FORM AND TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATES

Certificates of stock shall be issued in the name of the Association, signed by its President, countersigned by the Treasurer, and sealed with its common seal, and shall declare that they are issued and accepted subject to such by-laws and rules and regulations of the Association as then exist, and to the amending, altering and repeal of the same, and to such further by-laws, rules and regulations as may be thereafter adopted.

Certificates of stock shall be transferable only on the books of the Company in person or by power of attorney duly acknowledged, and only after the transferee has been elected a member of the Association, as is herein provided, and only on payment of a transfer fee of \$10.00 to the Treasurer of the Association; and no transfer shall be made in any case if the person owning the certificate, or desiring to transfer the same, is indebted to the Association for any cause, until such indebtedness is fully paid.

IV

ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Candidates for membership must be proposed by two members, who shall file with the Clerk a writing signed by them, stating the name, residence, occupation and place of business of such candidate.

Action shall be taken on such application by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, at a meeting occurring not earlier than fifteen days after the receipt of such application by the Clerk. Notice

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

of the time and place of such meeting, and of the full names, residences, occupations and places of business, if any, of the applicants to be passed upon thereat, shall be given by mail to each member of the Association at least ten days before the day of such meeting. All members shall have the privileges of attending such meeting, and of stating reasons in favor of or against the admission of such applicants, but the vote of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall be cast in private and by secret ballot, and the result only shall be announced in the form of "elected" or "not elected." A unanimous vote of all the members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors present at such meeting shall be necessary to an election.

If any person elected does not within thirty days after notice by mail of his election to the address furnished by his proposers, signify his acceptance to the Clerk and make the payments required by these By-Laws, he shall be deemed to have declined to become a member. The Clerk shall at once notify candidates of their election, and of the time within which they must accept the same. When a candidate is not elected, the Clerk shall at once send notice of that fact to the persons proposing him.

V

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There shall be a Board of Directors composed of thirteen members, which shall have the care, management and direction of the business of the Association, including power to grant licenses to members to erect cottages on the grounds of the Association. It shall

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

also have power to appoint such committees as may seem proper, and to frame and adopt rules and regulations for the control of hunting and fishing on the grounds of the Association, and for the government of members, guests and all other persons thereon; and it shall fix the fines and penalties to be paid or suffered for infringements of such rules, and may at any time alter such fines or penalties, or amend or repeal existing rules and regulations, and adopt new ones.

Such Directors shall be elected by ballot from the number of stockholders at the latter's annual meeting, to be held as herein provided, and shall hold office for one year, and until their successors are elected and qualify.

A meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at the Club House of the Association immediately after the adjournment of the annual meeting of stockholders, and stated meetings shall be held thereafter on the third Monday of February, May, August and November in each year.

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or Clerk at any time; and it shall be the duty of either one of such officers to call the same upon the written request of any two directors. Notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be mailed to each director at least three days prior to the date of meeting.

The presence of seven directors shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but two or more directors, in the absence of a quorum, may adjourn meetings from time to time.

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

The following shall be the order of business at meetings of the Board of Directors:—

1. Roll Call
2. Reading and approving minutes of previous meeting
3. Reports of Officers
4. Reports of Standing Committees
5. Reports of Special Committees
6. Unfinished Business
7. New business

VI

OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Clerk, Treasurer and Counsel.

They shall be annually elected by ballot by the Board of Directors at their first or any subsequent meeting, and shall respectively hold office for one year and until their successors are elected and qualify. The President, Clerk and Treasurer must be elected from the number of Directors for the time being.

All officers shall report at each annual meeting of stockholders and to the Board of Directors at each stated meeting, and oftener if required to do so.

VII

VACANCIES

Any vacancy in the Board of Directors, or among the officers of the Association, shall be filled by the remaining Directors on election by ballot, and the person so elected shall hold office for the unexpired term of the person he succeeds, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

VIII

DUTIES OF PRESIDENT

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of stockholders and of the Board of Directors, to sign all certificates of stock; to sign and execute all contracts and instruments in the name of the Association and by direction of the Board of Directors, and he shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association.

IX

DUTIES OF VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall discharge the duties of President whenever and while the latter is unable to act through sickness, absence or otherwise, and no longer.

X

DUTIES OF CLERK

The Clerk shall take the oath required by law; he shall keep the minutes of the Board of Directors and of the stockholders' meetings and record their votes in proper books to be provided for that purpose; he shall attend to serving and publishing all notices of meetings or other matters required by law or by these by-laws. He shall also attend to the correspondence of the Association, under the direction of the President and the Board of Directors.

XI

DUTIES OF TREASURER

The Treasurer shall give bond in the penalty of \$1,000.00 with the one or more sureties, the form of

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

the bond and sufficiency of the sureties, to be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. He shall have the care and oversight of all moneys of the Association and the collection thereof, including the collection of dues, fines and penalties; he shall deposit the same to the credit of the Association in such banks or moneyed institutions as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors; he shall sign all checks, drafts, and orders for the payment of money; he shall countersign all certificates of stock; he shall have the custody of the corporate seal and shall affix the same to such certificates and to other instruments only by special authority of the Board of Directors; he shall immediately report to the Board of Directors the names of all members who fail to pay dues, fines or penalties within the time limited for such payment by these By-Laws or the rules and regulations relating to the same, together with proof of service of required notices on the persons in default.

XII

DUTIES OF COUNSEL

It shall be the duty of the Counsel of the Association to attend to such of its legal affairs as may be referred to him, and to advise the Board of Directors from time to time of any alteration in the laws of the Commonwealth affecting this Corporation or its management, or affecting the taking of game or fish in the localities covered by the Association's property; he shall also take such action toward enforcing such game and fish laws as may be directed by the Board of Directors or any officer of the Association.

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XIII

GUESTS

1. Guests may be introduced to the privileges of the Association grounds and house by members. The Board of Directors may limit the number of guests to be admitted by each person in case it may, in its judgment, be necessary to do so.
2. Any person introducing a guest is responsible for such guest's decorum and observance of the rules of the Association while on its grounds; and if there is any lack of accommodation for both member and guest, the latter shall have the preference.
3. Section one shall not apply to the families of members who shall, as such, be entitled to the privileges of the Association under its rules and regulations.
4. The expenses and board of all guests shall be charged to the persons introducing them, who shall be directly liable to the Association therefor.

XIV

ANNUAL DUES

Every member shall pay to the Treasurer of the Association such annual dues as the Board of Directors shall prescribe, not exceeding however, \$25.00 per annum.

XV

DUES, FINES AND PENALTIES

All fines or annual dues imposed by the Board of Directors shall be paid to the Treasurer within thirty

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days after notice thereof by mail to the address of the person upon the books of the Association, and in case any person shall neglect to pay such fines or dues within such time or shall neglect for fifteen days after like notice by mail to pay any other indebtedness or to discharge any other pecuniary responsibility to the Association on proof of service of notice thereof, the certificate or certificates of said person may be forfeited to the Association by a majority vote of the Board of Directors to that effect, and said person shall then cease to be a member of the Association.

All forfeited certificates may be sold at such price as the Board of Directors shall determine, and persons purchasing such certificates shall, after election by the Board of Directors, receive notice of their election and that the certificate will be delivered on payment therefor, together with the annual dues and regular transfer fee.

The proceeds of such sale, after deducting the expenses thereof and all fines and dues, if any, of the person to whom the share belonged, shall be paid over to such person.

XVI

PROCEDURE TO ENFORCE BY-LAWS AND RULES

If any member of the Association or any guest thereof, shall violate any by-laws, rules or regulations of the Association, or be guilty of any act or acts unbecoming a gentleman or prejudicial to the interest or property of the Association, at any time, a complaint thereof setting forth with particularity the facts may

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be laid before the Board of Directors by any member of the Association.

A copy of the complaint shall be served upon the person complained of or who introduced the guest whose conduct is complained of, either by delivering the same to him personally or by mailing the same to him pursuant to the by-laws. Such complaint shall be investigated by the Board of Directors at their next regular or special meeting, occurring at least five days after service of a copy of the complaint is made as aforesaid. Such person shall be entitled to submit a written defense and he may be heard thereon. Upon the complaint being declared proved by the vote of seven directors, such guest, if the complaint be concerning a guest, may be excluded from the grounds of the Association thereafter, and such fines may be imposed on the person who introduced him, as would have been imposed on such person had he been guilty of the act complained of; or, if the complaint be against a member, such fines and penalties shall be imposed on him as shall have been declared by the Board of Directors to be the penalty for the offense.

In case by a vote of seven directors the conduct of such member shall be deemed to deserve suspension or expulsion, a resolution to that effect may be passed and executed.

Meetings under this by-law may be adjourned from time to time, as a majority of the directors may determine.

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XVII

REMOVAL OF PROPERTY—SALE OF CERTIFICATE UPON EXPULSION

If any member owning property on the grounds of the Association, or more than one share of stock, be expelled from the Association by reason of his infraction of its rules, regulations or by-laws, such person shall, within six months from the date of his expulsion, sell such property and shares (all but one share, which may be forfeited to the Association), to any member of the Association, or to any person whose election as a member has been secured; or such person shall within like time remove his property from the grounds of the Association, and in case he does not, within the time limited, make such sale or remove such property, such property and shares may be sold at auction by the direction of the Board of Directors at such time and place, and in such manner as they shall appoint. The proceeds of such sale, after deducting the expenses thereof, and all fines and dues, if any, of the person to whom the property or shares belonged, shall be paid over to such person.

XVIII

NOTICES

All notices provided for by the by-laws, rules or regulations of this Association, to be given to members, directors or others, may be given through the mails, directed to the post office address furnished as herein provided by the person to be notified. It shall be the duty of each member at the time of joining the Association, to furnish the Clerk with a post office address to which such notices may be sent, and to thereafter

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promptly inform him of any change of address. The Clerk shall keep a list of such addresses, and notices mailed to any person directed to the last address so furnished by him shall be valid and effectual for all purposes.

XIX

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETINGS

There shall be an annual meeting of stockholders for the election of a Board of Directors, and the transaction of any business which may lawfully come before them, to be held on the second Tuesday of July in each year, at the Club House of the Association in Pike County. The attendance either in person or by proxy of eight stockholders shall constitute a quorum at all regular and special meetings except where otherwise provided by law. Each share of stock shall be entitled to one vote, to be cast by the person in whose name the same shall stand upon the books of the Association, or by any person holding the written proxy of such stockholder. Any stockholder, or his representative by proxy, may cast the whole number of his votes for one candidate, or distribute them among two or more candidates as he may prefer. Such election shall be held under the supervision of two inspectors, who shall not be officers or directors of the Association, and shall be annually appointed by the Board of Directors. Before entering on the duties of their appointment such inspectors shall take and subscribe the oath required by law. All such elections shall be by ballot, and the person or persons having the highest number of votes cast shall be declared elected. The President and Clerk of the Association shall respectively act as President and Clerk of all Stockholders' meetings.

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Special meetings of stockholders may be called by the President or Clerk at any time, and it shall be the duty of either or such officers to call such meetings upon the written request of any three stockholders. Notice of the time and place of such meetings, and of the matters to be brought before the same, shall be mailed to each stockholder, at least five days before the time fixed for the meetings.

Notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be printed in one or more newspapers published in Pike County, at least once a week for two weeks successively prior to the date fixed for such meeting.

XX

SEAL

The seal of the Association shall be circular in form, and shall have engraved in a circle thereon the name of the Association, with a device in the center showing to the right and left sloping banks with growing trees and bushes; between them the waters of a lake; a sportsman on the left bank in the act of firing at a bird flying in the upper right hand side and on the upper left hand side clouds.

XXI

ALTERATIONS OF BY-LAWS

These by-laws may be altered, repealed, or new by-laws made by the stockholders at any regular meeting or at any special meeting called as herein provided.

Besides the changes in the by-laws relating to dues and initiation fees which are noted in another chap-

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ter, there have been a number of revisions since 1885, the most important being as follows: In 1889 the stated meetings of the Board were changed to read "third Tuesday" instead of "third Monday" in November, February, May and August; the number of directors necessary to constitute a quorum was changed from seven to five; the Landscape Engineer added to regular officers; and the date of the Stockholders' meeting was changed to the second Tuesday in October instead of July.

In 1907 the duties of the Standing Committees were set forth in detail under separate articles and Membership and Entertainment Committees were added, and a Nominating Committee, appointed in August of each year, for the purpose of nominating directors to be balloted upon at the annual Stockholders' meeting, was created.

In 1920 the following changes in the by-laws were made: The Board was divided into three classes; two classes of four members each to serve one and two years respectively and one class of five members to serve three years: The stated meetings were changed to the third Friday in February, May, August and November: The Annual Meeting was changed to the second Saturday of October for the year 1920 and thereafter to the third Friday of August: Provision was made that thirty-five members constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting: A Finance Committee was added to the Standing Committees: A rule was adopted that no boat propelled otherwise than

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by oars, paddles or sails shall be allowed on the lakes of the Club: It was enacted that an applicant for regular membership shall have been an Associate member for at least one year, and that any person of good moral character shall be eligible for membership. The last amendment allowed women to become members and the old paragraph relating to the rights of a widow or next of kin was omitted as unnecessary.

In 1923 the stated meetings of the Board were again changed to the third Friday of February, May, August and October.

The most recent by-laws which were published in 1926 are substantially those of 1920.

From 1926 to the present time there has been but one amendment. Article XXII formerly read as follows: "The playing of games, shooting or fishing on Sunday is prohibited." This was amended to read: "Shooting and fishing on Sundays is prohibited. The playing of games on Sundays is prohibited, other than the games of golf and tennis which games may be played on Sundays between the hours of two and seven o'clock p.m." This amendment was adopted at a Special Stockholders' Meeting on July 18th, 1931.

The earliest recorded meeting of the Directors of the Association was held on August 7th, 1882, at New York, at the residence of Doctor Alexander Hadden, for the purpose of perfecting the organization, the election of regular officers and the ap-

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pointing of Committees for managing the various activities of the Association.

The following officers were elected:

President: Dr. Alexander Hadden.

Vice President: Mr. Edward G. Black.

Clerk: Dr. J. V. S. Wooley.

Treasurer: Mr. Robert Betty.

Counsel: Mr. J. H. Van Etten.

The following standing committees were formed to hold office for the ensuing year. Viz.:

1. A committee on Buildings and Grounds.
2. A committee on Forestry.
3. A committee on Game.
4. A committee on Fish.
5. A committee on Membership.

Each committee consisted of three members appointed by the President, the President to be ex-officio a member of each committee.

The President, Vice-President, the Clerk and the Treasurer constituted a Committee on Membership. At this meeting a superintendent of the property of the Association was engaged in the person of Mr. John M. Williamson at a salary of not more than forty dollars a month dating from August 1st, 1882, with an allowance of fifty dollars for services rendered prior to that date. An authorization was also given to expend twenty-five dollars for repairing the



STONE WALL AND GATE, ROAD TO MAST HOPE

THE FOUNDING OF THE CLUB

road running from the grounds to the village of Mast Hope. One can well imagine how inadequate this small sum must have been to repair the Mast Hope road of fifty years ago.

In the fall of 1882, several months after Camp Williamson was erected, the Directors decided to build a club house and to set aside sixteen acres of land to be enclosed and known as the Club House Site.

About the same time, Mr. Edward G. Black was inspired to build a cottage for his own use, and, having elected to build within the proposed club house enclosure, he was allowed by the Directors to proceed with his plans with the understanding that plots be set aside outside the enclosure for any prospective future builders; and at a Directors' meeting on November 20th, a resolution was passed to the effect that a proper license be executed to Mr. Black for the erection of a cottage on the Association grounds. Mr. Black's cottage in May 1890 became the property of Charles R. Gregor and is now owned and occupied by his son, Charles S. MacGregor.

The above-mentioned enclosure, which later was defined by the picturesque stone walls and entrance posts, several of the latter still standing although the walls have mostly disappeared, embraced, besides the site of the Club House, the apple orchard to the south, still containing about forty trees and in a good state of preservation, which was planted by Mr. Black; the large plot west of the Club House to a line a little

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below the present waitresses' dormitory, and running out to the public road; and the area which now includes the first hole and the larger parts of the eighth and ninth holes of our present golf course.

Besides the walls defining the original Club House Site, the lower meadow was bounded on the east by a wall separating it from the Rowlands and Decker's Mills Road, with entrance posts leading into the Club grounds. This road has, since 1926, been set further east from where it originally ran and the wall is no more. The gate posts are still in evidence, though they too have been removed further down the slope. Still standing, too, is the original stone post and wall bordering the path leading to the former Avis cottage.

The old stone walls deserve more than passing mention. Strange to say, no record has been found as to just when their building was begun. Their construction evidently was carried on over the course of several years and they were probably completed within eight or ten years from the time of the founding of the Club. When Mr. Gregor purchased Mr. Black's cottage in 1890, he built the section of wall, which, until recently, stood just south of that cottage, to protect it from fire and the encroachment of the woods. It is said that an old German whose working garb habitually included a long black coat and derby hat and who occasionally would bob up from behind the wall and frighten the women strolling about the grounds, was responsible for most of



TURNSTILE. "TO KEEP THE COWS OUT?"

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this masonry and for which he was paid the munificent sum of forty cents a rod; but tradition also states that some of our earliest members performed actual manual work on these stone fences when they felt the need of a little physical exercise or, perhaps, to more nearly approach the truth, when the fishing was poor. To Mr. John Davidson is given credit for having himself built some of the stone posts. Turnstiles were placed between the gate posts at several entrances to the enclosure, similar to the one still standing in front of the MacGregor cottage; but with the exception of this one, all the rest have long since disappeared. These turnstiles were ostensibly for the purpose of keeping the cows out of the enclosure but reference to the accompanying illustration will show that they had their sentimental side as well.

On or about September 1st, the Committee on Buildings and Grounds selected and staked out a site for a club house on the ridge between Long Lake (Corilla) and Wolf Pond, the highest elevation between the Delaware and Lackawaxen Rivers, about 1500 feet above the sea level and 700 feet above these rivers, and on October 6th, Messrs. Pelham and Ogden presented plans prepared by them for a proposed club house at an estimated cost of \$4,000.00. A recommendation was made for the building of an ice house, for purchase of horses and wagons, for laying the foundations of the house (Club) and for clearing the land near the same to obtain a better view, and to prevent fires.

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The Mr. Ogden referred to above was Alfred B. Ogden after whom Mount Ogden was named. He was largely responsible for the surveying and laying out of the property.

Many times the question has been asked as to why Mount Ogden was not chosen as the site on which to erect the Club House because of the magnificent view to be obtained from that point. This had been given serious consideration, but the present site was finally decided upon because of its closer proximity to the lakes and its more sheltered position.

Another mountain, named Mount Hadden after Dr. Alexander Hadden, our first President, rising from the east shore of Corilla Lake, stands sentinel over that beautiful body of water, even as Mount Ogden performs the same duty for Wolf; and it seems peculiarly fitting that the two highest points of our Club lands should carry the names of these preeminent members.

At the above-mentioned meeting on October 6th, 1882, Mr. Williamson, William Hadden, and Mr. Betty were directed to go to Milford, the County Seat, and take oath of office as Association Policemen, and at the same time arrange for official badges. These special policemen were superseded in June, 1883, by Special Constables in the persons of Lafayette C. James, at that time the superintendent of the Club, and members of the Executive Committee.

We were very dressy even in the early days. It is recorded, in June, 1900, that Mr. Frame was requested

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to see what could be done to secure uniform dresses for the waitresses in the dining room. What his success was in this direction has not been learned.

A building 20x12 had already been erected on the Association grounds for the accommodation of the superintendent, and there had been sent up to him a stove, some bedding, farm utensils and a team of horses at a cost of \$75.00.

III

THE ORIGINAL CLUB HOUSE

THE members of the Club of the present generation have little idea of the difficulties that beset the founders and pioneers. They literally carved this garden out of the wilderness. The names of the active spirits in the organization appear time and again in the records and the many meetings aside from the stated ones called for by the by-laws attest to the great amount of thought and effort these men put into their project.

Dr. Alexander Hadden, the first President and the presiding officer for so many years, was a great leader; and he was fortunate in having, among others, such able lieutenants as Edward G. Black, Dr. James V. S. Wooley, Robert Betty, J. H. Van Etten, Charles R. Gregor, Dr. Frank P. Foster, Thomas G. Wall, George B. Pelham, William W. Ladd, Jr., Alfred B. Ogden and Dr. Daniel Lewis. These men were not only excellent organizers, but many of them possessed technical and practical knowledge in surveying, planning and building that proved exceedingly valuable. Indeed, the Club has always been fortunate in having so many men of this type among its members. The plans prepared by George B. Pelham for the proposed club house were adopted in November of 1882 and

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thereafter various bids for the cost of erection were asked for and received.

The immediate problem was one of financing, and the early records throw considerable light on the difficulties encountered. On January 3rd, 1883, at a Directors' meeting the Treasurer reported that there were no funds in the treasury and that the Association was in debt to the extent of \$50.00. The minutes of several later meetings attest to the same deplorable state of affairs and several ways and means were proposed to raise money.

At the first meeting of the Directors in August 1882, the Treasurer had been directed to call in all balances due on subscriptions within ten days of the date of the meeting and at the expiration of that time to sell, at not less than \$200.00 each such shares as might still remain unpaid for—such shares being declared by the resolution to be forfeited to the Association; and on November 20th, it was resolved that unpaid certificates of stock or subscriptions be offered for sale by the Treasurer at \$200.00 each, subject to the election of purchasers.

At the same time it was resolved that the Clerk institute proceedings to increase the capital stock by seventy shares as soon as the formalities of the law would allow and that the provisions for associate membership be abandoned. The increase of the capital stock by 70 shares, making the entire capitalization \$10,000.00 was accomplished March 7th, 1883. That part of the above resolution relating to associ-

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ate membership apparently did not preclude such membership, but referred to an earlier resolution regarding the right of an original subscriber to pay for his own subscription by supplying an associate member. The dues of regular and associate members were fixed semi-annually and at this time and for many years afterwards were \$12.50 for the half year.

On January 22nd, 1883, there was discussed the advisability of charter members paying an additional sum of \$100.00 to the Association so as to make their subscriptions \$200.00 and equal to the price to be asked for the stock about to be issued. It was finally resolved to appoint a committee to solicit from members subscriptions for shares of stock upon the following conditions: *First* That twenty shares of stock at \$200.00 each be subscribed for within thirty days from date. *Second* With the right to members subscribing to turn into the Association within six months from date an acceptable new member in lieu of their subscriptions or to pay the subscription price thereof, \$200.00, in such installments as the Board of Directors may prescribe. *Third* Such subscriptions to make up a fund for erecting a club house, etc. *Fourth* Such subscription shares to be free from dues while held by the persons subscribing for the same.

By February 19th, eight or nine signatures to the above subscription shares had been obtained, and on March 7th the balance of the twenty shares had been subscribed for, the President taking two. The Executive Committee was therefore authorized to pro-

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ceed to erect a club house at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00 and with power to alter plans and specifications so as to keep within this amount. Three previous estimates for the cost of the erection of the Club House had been received; one for \$9,500.00, one for \$6,000.00, and one for \$5,000.00.

During the next three months the building of the Club House went forward. On April 18th, at a Directors' meeting, progress was reported, and on June 2nd, 1883, a verbal report was made by the Executive Committee to the effect that the Club House was standing, the inside beams were laid and the interior partitions partly erected.

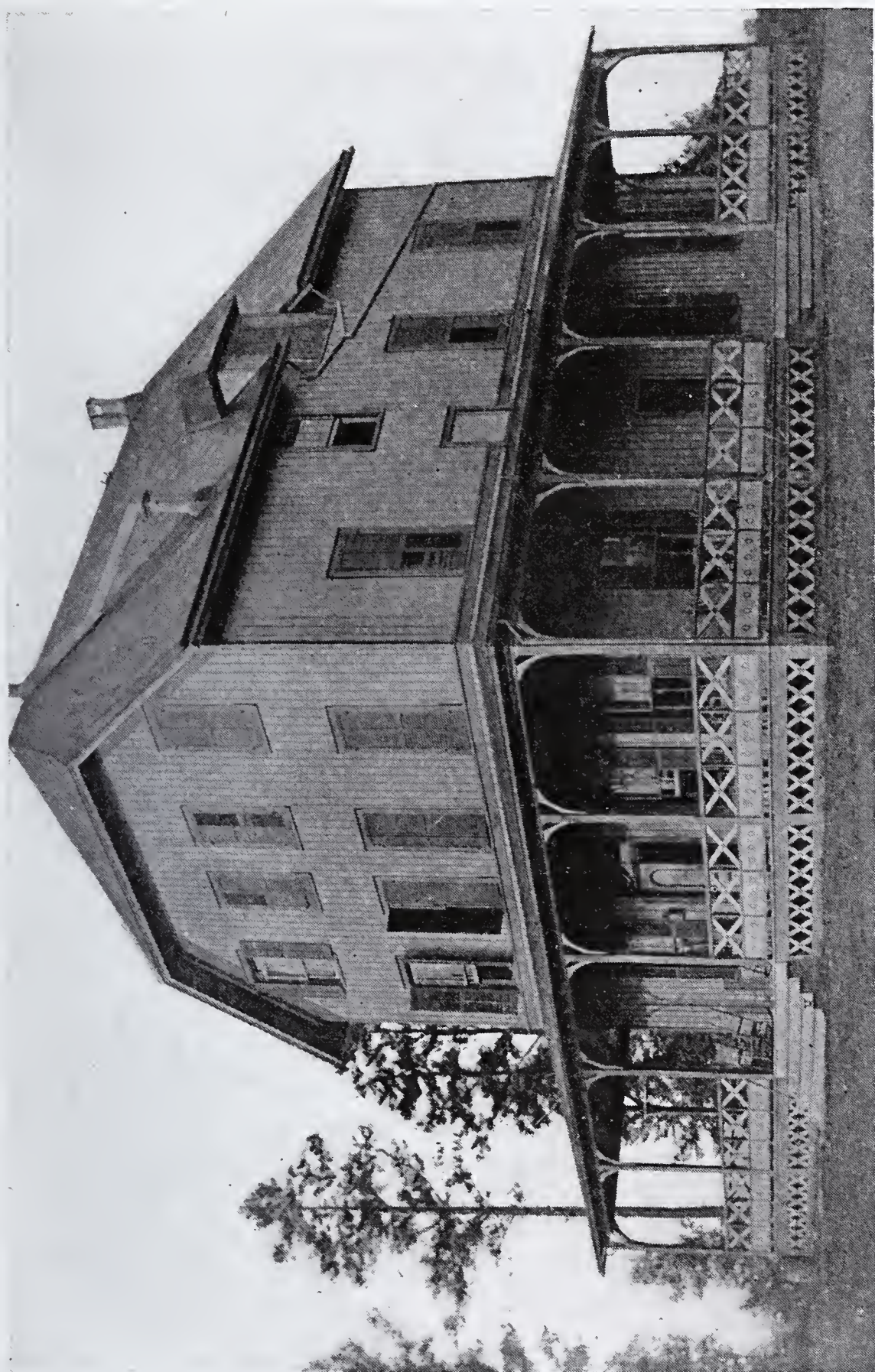
No record has been found as to the exact date on which the Club House was finally finished and open for the reception of members and guests, but it would seem from certain items noted in the minutes of meetings held during the spring and summer of 1884, such as an authorization "to make a scale of charges for carrying persons to and from the depot and the club house, \$.50 for adults, and half price for children from 4 to 12 years of age" and again "to buy a number of Fire Grenades and place the same in the club house," that the house had probably been ready for occupancy since the fall of the previous year, that is, since the fall of 1883; while still another indication that this latter date is probably correct is shown in a resolution passed September 24th, 1883, relative to the engagement of Austin H. Lake as manager and caretaker of the Association

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property, Club House and grounds. He was to take charge for six months beginning October 1st, 1883, at a monthly salary of \$25.00 and board for himself and wife and daughter.

The Club House as originally built, and which is the central part of our present building, was forty feet long and thirty-two feet in depth, three stories high, with a large open attic above and comfortable piazzas on the ground floor, giving four large double and fourteen single rooms, besides parlor and dining room. The piazzas extended at first along the east and north sides only; later, one was built along a portion of the west side.

The arrangement of the main floor was as follows: To the right and left, as one entered from the front porch, were two rooms each about 10 to 12 feet in depth; the former, used as the office and men's recreation room and the latter the ladies' parlor. In each of these rooms was a small fireplace and in the parlor, among other furnishings were a wood stove and a piano. The piano was apparently rented each year for the season; for in May, 1887, there is noted in the minutes an authorization for hiring a piano for use at the Club House; and as far back as February 24th, 1885, there was a rule laid down as follows: "The piano shall be played only between the hours of 9.00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M. Children and nurses not permitted to play on same unless by special permission of the superintendent." In February, 1888, Miss Mame E. Davidson, the present Mrs. James Baird, presented to



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the Club, on behalf of several subscribers, the piano then in use. The dining room occupied that half of the present lobby facing the large fireplace and when the south wing was built and the dining room placed there, the original dining room became first the ladies' parlor and later, the billiard room. The original ladies' parlor later became the children's dining room and so remained until about five or six years ago. The men's recreation room, or, as it came to be known for a good many years, the "Muggins Room," disappeared when the north wing was built and the office was rearranged. The kitchen of the establishment occupied an extension built on the southwest corner of the main house.

In those early days, the "Muggins Room," aside from the dining room, was the most popular meeting place in the Club. Here it was that this famous game, which, by the way, was played with dominoes, in which the count was made by fives or multiples of five, went on almost nightly. There were eight or ten regulars who furnished the hilarity and they are herewith made known to posterity as follows: John Davidson, James A. Frame, John Livingston, John Graham, William A. Avis, Charles R. Gregor, William Shields, A. B. Johnson, Charles Whitlock. The first two gentlemen mentioned were responsible for most of the fun. For practical joking, general fooling and arch dissimulation, Mr. Davidson wore the laurel wreath. Indeed! He was no mean magician;

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and the way the dominoes would appear and disappear without adequate reason was remarkable.

On the other hand, Mr. Frame's impeccable honesty and habitual dignity, alone, were more than enough to tempt the former to try all the tricks at his command. Not only that, but the culprit would deny his guilt, though the evidence was as plainly to be seen as was his patriarchal white beard. But would he blush with shame? Not he. On the contrary, he would glory in his iniquity, shaking with laughter, while Mr. Frame would be on the point of exploding with indignation. But what is a game of "Muggins" between friends, even as played by Mr. Davidson? And what friends they were.

Several important resolutions were passed by the Directors during the spring and summer of 1883, looking towards the improvement of the Club in general, and, in particular, towards placing it upon a firmer financial foundation.

In April of this year, there came up for consideration, the matter of a telephone connection between the Club House and the Mast Hope telegraph station. Several years passed before this plan could be carried out, but in the winter of 1889, Mr. John Minturn very generously presented to the Club the telephone wire. The gift was gratefully accepted, and the line installed. A fee of ten cents was charged for each message not relating exclusively to the business of the Association. In 1894, Mrs. Minturn graciously transferred to the Club the share of stock left to her



"TAKEN AT HAWLEY"



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by her husband, with the request that the income from the proceeds of the sale of the stock be used towards the upkeep of the telephone line.

Referring again to the summer of 1883, a team of horses was bought for the good round sum of \$300.00, showing that the horse market had apparently gone up since some six months before, when a team had been secured along with some other necessary equipment for \$75.00.

On June 9th it was recommended that a written prospectus of the Association be prepared. Just what was done about this matter at the time does not appear, but in April, 1885, there was printed a brochure containing the By-Laws, Regulations, Officers and Committees of The Forest Lake Association, prefaced by a very pleasing description of the Club as it was at that time.

The Membership Committee had been doing some intensive work, and between April 18th and June 9th there had been twenty-one new members elected, giving an approximate membership up to this latter date of fifty-one.

A new seal of the Association was also decided upon representing to the left a sportsman kneeling behind bushes and in the act of firing at a bird flying in the right upper corner, with clouds in the left upper corner, a lake in the center, and a wooded shore on the right hand, the whole enclosed in a circle containing the name of the Association. A

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new seal was adopted in 1906 when the name was changed to The Forest Lake Club.

Turning again to the problem of finance, we find that on April 18th, 1883, an assessment was levied on subscribers to the building fund of fifty dollars for each share of stock subscribed for, payable in seven days thereafter. Also a resolution to the effect that "all moneys paid into the Treasury as purchase money on purchase of shares of stock by new members shall be applied to repay, pro rata, the advances of subscribers to the Building Fund after \$4,000.00 has been received from assessments and purchases of stock by new members."

At a meeting of the Directors on August 30th, 1883, the Treasurer was requested to procure a loan of three thousand dollars. This resolution was rescinded at a subsequent meeting on September 24th, and another resolution adopted to wit: "That a mortgage securing payment of 100 bonds of \$100.00 each bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, maturing in five years from October 1st, 1883, be made to Charles Whitlock, as Trustee, on lands of the Forest Lake Association, excepting one acre in the center of which stands the cottage of Edward G. Black, and that the same be executed by the President and Clerk of this Association and that said bonds be sold and disposed of at not less than par to meet the debts of the Association."

On November 12th, it was decided that sufficient stock of the Association at its par value be issued to

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pay in full all claims of members of the Association in the sums determined by the Auditing Committee, and that "Bonds in the sum of \$100 each with interest at six per cent per annum payable semi-annually maturing in five years, with principal and interest payable in the Treasurer's office, be issued in a sum equal to one-half of the amount of stock of the Association paid in after issuing of stock in payment of claims of members against the Association. Such bonds to be secured by a mortgage on the real estate of the Association in Pike County, Pennsylvania, which mortgage shall be made to Charles Whitlock Jr. as trustee for the bondholders. Such bonds to be sold by the Treasurer at no less than par; and such bonds and mortgage to be approved as to form by the Counsel of the Association and to be executed by the President and Treasurer; said bonds and mortgage being hereby authorized to be executed for the purpose of borrowing money for use of the Association."

We have seen that, whereas the price to the charter members for each share of stock was \$100.00, it was resolved, very soon after the Club was incorporated, that unpaid certificates of stock or new subscriptions be offered for sale at \$200.00 each. In all, only three new subscribers bought stock at this latter price, and on January 10th, 1884, when the price of shares was reduced again to \$100.00, there was issued to each of these subscribers one share of stock

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of the value of \$100.00 to equalize the price heretofore paid by them with the price now asked.

In very truth, what with mortgages, bond issues and the difficulties of obtaining subscriptions, the founders of our Club trod a decidedly stony path to success, and many times were called upon literally to "put their hands in their pockets" to keep the Club a "going concern." But the plans were working out. It was now over a year since the Club House had been built. A large and substantial barn, ice house and storage building had been erected. Excellent drinking water from a spring near the "Big Corilla" was furnished to the Club House by means of a force pump—the same never failing spring that still supplies us with such good water; a large vegetable garden was maintained and a sufficient stock of cows gave an abundant supply of milk.

Early in the year 1885, it was decided to formulate and adopt House and General Rules for the protection of the Club property, also rules regulating Fishing, Hunting and Shooting, not only to coincide with the Laws of the State of Pennsylvania relating thereto, but also for the purpose of carrying out, as set forth in the Charter, one of the main objects of the Association—namely: The Preservation and Propagation of Fish and Game.

On February 10th, these proposed rules, with rules providing penalties for violation of the same, were read, discussed and adopted. Amendments in several particulars were subsequently made, thereby

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corresponding to the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations as published in April, 1885. They were as follows:

HOUSE AND GENERAL RULES

1. Applications for rooms must be addressed to the Superintendent, Mast Hope, P. O., Pike County, Pennsylvania.

Rooms will be allotted by the Superintendent in the order of application.

2. Rooms reserved and not occupied must be paid for by applicant for the period of one week unless sooner disposed of, in which case the applicant shall pay for pro rata portion of such week. A person unable to occupy rooms on the date fixed, may have the same further reserved for him one week by notice to the Superintendent, to be received by him within twenty-four hours after such date.

3. Terms, invariably cash with weekly settlements.

From September 15th, to July 1st, \$8.00 per week for adults and children over nine years of age; half rates for servants and young children not under three years.

From July 1st, to September 15th: Second-story rooms, double, not less than \$18.00 per week and \$8.00 per week for each person in excess of two.

Second-story rooms, single, not less than \$9.00 per week and \$8.00 for each additional person.

Third-story, single rooms, not less than \$8.00 per week and \$7.00 for each additional person.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

Children over three years of age and under nine years, half price.

Servants occupying rooms with children, half price.

Transients being persons not members; staying less than one week, \$2.00 per day at all seasons.

Table board \$6.00 per week.

Breakfast and tea each fifty cents; dinner, seventy-five cents.

Lodging per night, fifty cents.

4. Meals will be served in rooms only in case of sickness.

No articles will be permitted to be carried from tables to rooms.

5. Washing done for \$1.00 per dozen.

Opportunities for washing children's clothing by nurses will be afforded at the laundry. No washing will be permitted elsewhere.

6. Meal hours: Breakfast, 7:30 to 8:30 A. M.; Dinner, 1:00 to 2:30 P. M.; Tea, 6:30 to 7:30 P. M.

The dining room will be closed promptly at the last named hours; meals supplied after hours charged extra.

This rule shall not apply to persons arriving from or departing to meet trains.

7. The board of guests shall be two dollars additional per week to that prescribed for members.

8. On notice by telegraph to the Superintendent at Mast Hope, Pike County, Pennsylvania, or by

THE ORIGINAL CLUB HOUSE

letter mailed two days prior to intended departure, transportation will be furnished at fifty cents each way for adults and half price for children over three and under nine years of age. Baggage free.

9. Children under nine years of age unaccompanied by parents or guardians, shall not be allowed to remain at the Club House.
10. Members keeping dogs on the grounds shall be charged fifty cents per week.
No dogs or other animals shall be allowed on the piazza or inside the Club House.
11. No vocal or instrumental music shall be allowed except between the hours of 9:00 A. M. and 10.30 P. M. unless by special permission of the Superintendent.
Children or nurses are not permitted to play on the piano.
12. Complaints must be made to the Superintendent or in writing to the Executive Committee or Clerk of the Association.
13. Glass, crockery or other property of the Association broken or injured must be promptly paid for by the member or guest with whom the accident may occur.
14. Public playing of games on Sunday is prohibited.
15. The time or services of employees of the Association shall not be taken by any person without the

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

consent of a member of the Executive Committee or Superintendent and only on payment therefor to the Association.

16. The family of members shall be charged the rates prescribed for members. The word family shall be held to include such relatives of the member as habitually throughout the year live under the same roof with him.
17. All persons shall immediately on entering the Association grounds register their names at the Club House, and if stopping at a cottage give the name of the same.
18. No person not boarding at the club house shall be entitled to the consumption of any ice, wood prepared for fuel, water from the Club House tank or other property of the Association except with the permission of the Executive Committee or Superintendent and then only at such prices as may be fixed therefor.
19. Persons keeping horses on the grounds of the Association shall be charged \$20.00 a month for each horse.
20. No person shall cut any tree, shrub or plant, or plant out any trees or shrubs or plants except under the direction and with the permission of the Board of Directors or some Committee thereof.

RULES REGULATING FISHING

1. A person who at any time takes or catches a black bass less than eleven inches in length or under one

THE ORIGINAL CLUB HOUSE

pound in weight shall immediately return such fish to the waters from which it was taken and set the same free therein. The measurement shall be from the center of the mouth along the lateral line to the base of, but excluding the caudal fin.

2. No spoon or artificial bait shall be used in the waters of the Big Corilla. The use of flies is not prohibited.
3. No fish shall be taken or caught in the Big Corilla in any manner or by any means or device other than the ordinary way of angling with rod, hook and line, excepting bait fish for angling purposes which may be caught by hand nets or cast nets.
4. In accordance with the Laws of the State, fishing on Sunday is prohibited.
5. Fishing is prohibited except within the open seasons as fixed by the Statutes of Pennsylvania, which at present are as follows:
Pike or Pickerel, June 1st and February 1st following.
Brook Trout, May 1st and August 1st following.
Black Bass, June 1st and January 1st following.

RULES REGULATING HUNTING AND SHOOTING

1. In accordance with the laws of the State, shooting or hunting on Sunday is forbidden.
2. Discharge of fire-arms within one hundred yards of the Club House is forbidden.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

3. Dogs shall not be allowed at large upon the grounds.
4. No game shall be taken or killed by means of any trap, blind, snare, net or device except a gun handled as sportsmanship requires.
5. Animals or birds shall not be hunted, shot at or taken except during the open seasons as established by the Laws of Pennsylvania, and as to the following birds and animals within the following dates:—
 - Deer*, October 1st to December 1st.
 - Gray and Black Squirrel*, October 15th to December 15th.
 - Wood or Summer Duck*, October 1st to January 1st.
 - Woodcock*, July 4th to December 15th.
 - Quail*, October 15th to December 1st.
 - Upland Plover*, July 15th to January 1st.
 - Ruffed Grouse or Partridge*, October 1st to January 1st.
 - Rail or Reed Birds*, September, October and November.
6. Deer shall not be pursued with dogs nor killed in waters when driven there by dogs.
7. No person shall shoot at, injure or kill any thrush, martin, swallow, wood-pecker, oriole, red or cardinal bird, tanager, catbird, blue bird, chippy bird, wren, robin, meadow lark or whip-poor-will, or any insectivorous bird.

THE ORIGINAL CLUB HOUSE

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR

FISHING, HUNTING AND SHOOTING

In addition to any penalty or disability or forfeiture imposed by the By-Laws the penalties for any violation of any rule or part of a rule regulating hunting, fishing or shooting shall be a fine of \$10.00 for each violation and a further fine of \$5.00 for each fish, animal or bird taken or killed, wounded or injured in violation of any such rule and the suspension of the offender from the privileges of fishing, hunting and shooting for a period not exceeding one year and until the fines are paid.

Some few amendments and additions were made in the House and General Rules between 1885 and 1889 as follows:

1. The age at which full board was to be charged was changed from 9 to 12 years.
2. Elimination of fixed rates for board.
3. Additional charge of \$2.00 per week for board of guest over that of member.
4. Reduction of charge for keeping a horse on Club Grounds from \$20.00 to \$15.00 per month.

Although from 1889 to the present time some slight changes have been made in both the House and General Rules and those in regard to Hunting and Fishing, they are, in the main, similar to those now in effect.

IV

ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

As the Club grew in membership and popularity and within a year or two following the building of the original Club House, the need began to be felt for increased accommodations. There were between fifty and sixty names on the rolls and though there had been some intentions expressed by a few of the other members to build cottages, their plans had not materialized and Mr. Black was still the only cottage owner; in fact, some years elapsed before any more applications to build were made.

In November of 1886, the Executive Committee was asked to submit at the next meeting of the Board, a plan for an extension to the Club House. While such plan was in the making, improvements were also authorized in the matter of extending the store house to accommodate the help in the way of sleeping and dining apartments, enlarging the "chill" room and making alterations to the parlor of the Club. This work was well finished by the spring of 1887, and progress reported in the matter of increased accommodations for members and guests at the Club House.

The idea was to build a wing on the south side of the original Club House by subscriptions of eight or



SOUTH WING ADDED TO ORIGINAL CLUB HOUSE



ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

more members. This addition was to be 122 feet in length and 42 feet in depth, was to be two stories in height with an attic, and was to include a dining room and coat room on the ground floor, besides thirty-one rooms for sleeping quarters, which would be owned by the subscribers. A proposed contract with the members interested was approved at a special stockholders' meeting on August 24th, 1889. The Agreement to build was made and signed by members subscribing, September 14th, 1889, and in the following October the action of the stockholders was ratified by the Board. Mr. George B. Pelham was engaged as architect. Verbatim copies of the agreements to build and to share the cost of building, and a copy of the Blank Form of South Wing Lease, follow:

COPY

AGREEMENT

TO

BUILD SOUTH EXTENSION

AGREEMENT made the 14th day of September A.D. 1889, between the Forest Lake Association, party of the first part, and the undersigned members of the said Association, parties of the second part

WITNESSETH

The parties of the second part agree to erect and finish at their own cost and expense upon the grounds of the party of the first part, in Pike County, Penn-

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

sylvania, and without expense to the party of the first part, a wing or extension to be annexed to the present Club House of the party of the first part, said wing to extend toward the Gregor cottage, and to be about 122 feet in length, and two and one-half stories in height, said work to be done substantially according to the plans and specifications heretofore prepared by Geo. B. Pelham, Esq., Architect, and to be completed by May 15th, 1890.

Said parties of the second part also agree, at their own expense, to remove the store room, kitchen and other buildings connected with the present Club House, to the westward of said house, and place the same on suitable foundations, and connect the same with the Club House, as enlarged according to said plans.

The parties hereto agree that said new structure or extension is to be the property of the Forest Lake Association, and is to be and remain under its exclusive charge, management and control, and that said Association is also to have the exclusive use of the dining room, halls, stairways, cloak room, clerk's office and piazzas, appertaining to said new building or extension; and it agrees to keep the same, and the outside of said new buildings, in good order and repair.

The party of the first part agrees to allow said extension to be built, and said improvements to be made, and to pay the taxes on said extension, and keep the entire Club House insured to full amount of cost and to apply the insurance toward rebuilding or restoring the same in case of complete or partial destruction by fire, and to restoring the parties of the second part to their rights under this agreement so far as the insurance money will permit.

ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

The party of the first part further agrees, upon the completion of the building, to issue leases under its seal, in the form and containing the provisions of the instrument hereto annexed marked "A" which is to be taken as forming a part of this agreement, said leases to be issued only to members of the Forest Lake Association in good standing, and only to such members, and their successors, and for such rooms as the parties of the second part, or a majority of them may designate.

The total cost to each member of his leased room or rooms, exclusive of furniture, is to be stated by him to the party of the first part when the lease shall be issued, and the party of the first part shall have the right to close or take exclusive possession of said room or rooms and to cancel the lease thereof, and use said room or rooms upon the expulsion, from the Forest Lake Association, of the member holding the lease, but is required to pay the member who has leased said room or rooms the original cost as stated without interest within three months after taking possession of same.

The member whose room is taken may require during said three months that the lease of it be put up at auction among the other members of the Association and the price obtained shall be paid to him. The Association may also bid at such auction.

A member, or his legal or personal representatives, may, with the consent of the party of the first part, transfer a lease of his room or rooms to any other member of the party of the first part in good standing.

THIS AGREEMENT becomes operative after eight members have signed the same and it has been ratified

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

by the Board of Directors or Trustees of the party of the first part.

FOREST LAKE ASSOCIATION

ALEXANDER HADDEN, *President*

Sealed and delivered in
presence of

WM. H. FRAME

FREDERICK S. WAIT, *Clerk*

JAMES A. FRAME

JOHN LIVINGSTON

BENJAMIN A. WILLIAMS

B. F. JUDSON

ALEXANDER HADDEN

GEO. N. WILLIAMS

GEO. N. WILLIAMS, JR.

ALFRED B. SCOTT

STATE OF NEW YORK }
County of New York } ss

Be it remembered that on this eleventh day of December, A.D. 1890 before me, Joseph B. Braman, a Commissioner of the State of Pennsylvania, in and for the State of New York, resident in said City of New York, personally appeared Wm. H. Frame, one of the subscribing witnesses to the execution of the above and foregoing agreement, who being duly sworn, according to law, doth depose and say that he did see James A. Frame, John Livingston, Benjamin A. Williams, B. F. Judson, George N. Williams, G. N. Williams, Jr., Alfred B. Scott, and also Alexander Hadden individually and as President of the Forest Lake Association, the parties thereto above named, sign and seal, and as their act and deed deliver the above and fore-

ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

going agreement, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned and that he did also see Frederick S. Wait subscribe his name thereto as the other witness of such sealing and delivery and that the name of this deponent thereunto set and subscribed as a witness is of this deponent's own proper handwriting.

WILLIAM H. FRAME

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this eleventh day of December A. D.
Eighteen Hundred and Ninety at said
City and County of New York.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand
and affixed my official seal the day and year first above
written.

JOSEPH B. BRAMAN

Commissioner of the State of Pennsylvania, in and for
the State of New York, resident in said City of New
York.

Offices: Equitable Building, 120 Broadway,
New York City

Branch and residence, 1270 Broadway,
New York City

COPY

AGREEMENT TO PAY SHARE OF COST OF BUILDING EXTENSION

APPOINTING BUILDING COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT made this
14th day of September 1889, between the under-
signed constituting some of the members of the
Forest Lake Association:

WHEREAS an agreement has been heretofore en-
tered into between the undersigned and the Forest

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

Lake Association providing for the erection by the parties hereto of an addition or extension to the Club House of said Association upon its grounds in Pike County, Pennsylvania, and for the alteration of the present Club House out buildings, etc., substantially as set forth in the plans and specifications prepared by Geo. B. Pelham, Esq., Architect,

NOW, to effectuate said agreement, each of the parties hereto agrees to pay upon the ratification of the said agreement by the Forest Lake Association the sum of \$875.00 his share of the estimated cost of said building and improvements to George N. Williams, Jr., Esq., who is hereby constituted Treasurer of the fund, and the undersigned hereby authorizes said George N. Williams, Jr., Esq., Treasurer, to disburse said moneys for the completion of said building, extension and improvements under the direction of the committee hereinafter named. The undersigned also agree to pay on demand to said Treasurer, equally, such additional sums as may be required to complete said structure and improvements.

The undersigned also constitute and appoint James A. Frame, John Livingston and Benjamin A. Williams a committee of three with power and authority to enter into a contract or contracts with one or more persons or contractors for the erection and completion of said extension and the making of said improvements; said committee to be authorized to draw upon said George N. Williams, Jr., Esq., Treasurer, from time to time for the money needed to complete said extension and improvements according to said plans and specifications.

It is further agreed that when said extension has been substantially completed, the choice for the leases of rooms shall be put up at auction by the committee

ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

above named upon ten days' notice to the parties hereto by mail, and the undersigned alone are to be permitted to bid at said sale, and no more than two rooms which are to be in suites, can be selected by any of the undersigned until each subscriber has been accorded an opportunity to select rooms.

Any of the undersigned who have failed to comply with the provisions of this agreement are not to be allowed to bid at said sale, and shall forfeit their rights under this agreement.

After the undersigned have all obtained leases for suites of rooms, the remaining rooms are to be leased to members of the Forest Lake Association at such rates as a majority of the undersigned may determine.

The net proceeds of premiums and of leases of extra rooms is to become a part of the building fund, the surplus to be divided equally among the undersigned.

WITNESS our hands and seals the day and year first
above mentioned.

JAMES A. FRAME
JOHN LIVINGSTON
BENJAMIN A. WILLIAMS
B. F. JUDSON
ALEXANDER HADDEN
GEO. N. WILLIAMS
GEO. N. WILLIAMS, JR.
ALFRED B. SCOTT

COPY

BLANK FORM OF SOUTH WING LEASE

THIS INDENTURE made this day of
1890, between the Forest Lake Association, party of
the first part and a member
of said Association, party of the second part,

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

WITNESSETH

Pursuant to an agreement entered into September 14th, 1889, between the party of the first part and certain of its members, the party of the first part hereby leases to said party of the second part, rooms Nos _____ in the extension to its Club House in Pike County, Pennsylvania, for a period during which said building shall stand.

The parties hereto agree that this lease is subject to the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Forest Lake Association, as the same at present exist, and to the amending, alteration and repeal of the same, and also subject to such further By-Laws, Rules and Regulations as may hereafter be adopted by the said Forest Lake Association, with reference to the use of said rooms or the conduct of the occupants.

The party of the second part further agrees that said rooms shall be used solely by the party of the second part or his guests, as permitted by the rules of the Association, and that said rooms shall be occupied for the purpose of sleeping rooms only, and for no other purpose whatever; that the lessee shall furnish the same with bedroom furniture only, that no cooking shall be done therein, nor shall any food, merchandise or liquors be sold or stored in said rooms, nor shall any animal or bird be kept therein, nor shall any game of chance, upon which money is wagered, be played in said rooms.

It is further agreed that members and guests occupying said rooms, will board in the dining room of the party of the first part and pay table board at rates fixed by it, which shall not exceed the amount paid by Cottage Boarders; the lessee also agrees to keep the leased rooms in repair.

ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

The lessor reserves the right to enter said rooms at reasonable hours, and agrees to take care of the same; to supply waiting and chamber maid service to said leased rooms free of charge, similar to that furnished to other parts of the Club House, and to permit only the lessee or his guests to occupy same.

The party of the first part agrees to keep the entire Club House insured to full amount of cost and to apply the amount of insurance money toward rebuilding and restoring the same in case of complete or partial destruction by fire, and to restoring the party of the second part to his rights under this lease so far as the insurance money will permit.

The cost to the lessee of said rooms is hereby fixed at \$

The party of the first part upon the expulsion of the party of the second part from membership in the party of the first part, may take possession of said rooms, and it agrees to pay the party of the second part within three months after so doing, the said sum of \$ without interest. The party of the second part may, during said three months, require that this lease be put up at auction among the other members of the party of the first part and the price obtained shall be paid to the party of the second part.

The party of the first part may bid at said sale.

The party of the second part or his legal or personal representative, may with the consent of the party of the first part, assign said lease to any other member of the party of the first part in good standing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have caused these presents to be subscribed the day and year first above written.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

In February, 1890, the extension to the Club House was reported as going forward; in May it was ordered that the old Club House and out building be painted to conform to the color of the new wing, and in August, Benjamin A. Williams reported that the extension to the Club House had been completed. The new wing was accordingly accepted by the Board and on November 18th, 1890, the leases were ordered to be issued.

The original room owners were: Dr. Alexander Hadden, John Livingston, James A. Frame, Alfred B. Scott, B. F. Judson, Benjamin A. Williams, George N. Williams, George N. Williams, Jr., John Minturn and Abraham B. Johnson.

Before taking up the matter of any further addition to the Club House, it has been thought best to give as complete a picture as possible of the accommodations afforded by the Club House as now altered and improved.

There were now, with the four double and fourteen single rooms in the original part of the building and the thirty-one rooms in the wing, a total of forty-nine rooms for sleeping accommodations.

The log fireplaces in both the parlor and lobby furnished what warmth was usually necessary on cool days and evenings and if an unusual drop in temperature occurred, the wood stove added to the comfort of the guests. It is noted in the minutes of the Club that in April, 1888, a new wood stove was ordered for the ladies' parlor, and for this added

ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

blessing the ladies were undoubtedly very thankful.

In those early days, the lighting plant consisted of kerosene lamps for parlor, lobby and dining rooms, and candles for the bedrooms. It is said that a supply of candles was kept in a box on a stand in a corner of the parlor and when Morpheus claimed a victim the chosen one would say his "good nights," help himself to his stick of tallow, and march off to bed. Occasionally, however, difficulty would be encountered in lighting the pesky things, some arch villains having thoroughly drenched the wicks in water ere retiring to their own "downy" cots. Until a few years ago, when electricity was installed throughout the Club House, the candles were still used to light the guests to bed.

The general use of lamps and candles had always caused some apprehension of fire, and in 1898 the Executive Committee was instructed to provide proper fire escape ropes and attach the same to all bedroom windows of the top story of the old Club House and elsewhere where needed. These devices, which are really patent fire escapes, are still part of the equipment of the top story bedrooms.

In December of 1904, the District Attorney of Pike County notified the Club officials that the Club House must be provided with fire escapes according to the law. Later on there is a notation in the Club minutes to the effect that the Club did not come under the Pennsylvania factory law and the fire escapes were not then erected.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

An iron fire escape furnished by Harry Livingston was placed at the north end of the Club House in 1928.

The spring situated at the north end of Corilla has always been one of the Club's chief assets, because of its pure and seemingly unlimited supply of water. In all probability tests had been made of this water some time during the earlier years, although no records have been discovered to substantiate this surmise. However, it is recorded that in May, 1915, the spring water was reported pure, a test having been made shortly before this time through the kindness of Harry Livingston, and several satisfactory tests have subsequently been made.

The first few years after the original Club House was built, might, with some justice, be called the era of the "Water Wagon;" this bearing no relation, however, and being in no sense a forerunner of the 18th Amendment. The wagon was used to carry the water, in barrels, from the spring at Corilla up to the Club House; and this primitive method of water supply was used until a force pump was installed at the spring and a tank erected at the Club House early in the year 1885. For many years after its work was ended, the "Wagon" was still to be seen and pointed out to visitors as an interesting antique. Until very recently water has been supplied in this way during the winter season.

It is recorded that in February, 1887, it was decided that a pipe be laid to Wolf Pond to pump



OLD "WATER WAGON"



ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

water to the tank for laundry purposes; but no further mention has been found of this proposed project. In the very early days rain water was collected in barrels and used for this purpose.

The subject of establishing a more adequate sewerage system was taken up in November, 1890. This matter was referred to the Landscape Engineer with power.

In August, 1894, and but four years after the erection of the south wing, the matter of additional accommodations was again up for discussion and a committee was appointed to raise funds for this purpose. The Committee made a report in October following, recommending that an extension be built according to the plans prepared by one of its members, Mr. Robert Maynicke, an architect. As a means of raising funds for building purposes, the issuing of debenture bonds was proposed.

As set forth under the chapter on "Financial Problems," it was not until May, 1897, that the financing of the project had been satisfactorily worked out; and it was at a Stockholders' meeting, at this time that Mr. Maynicke again presented plans for an extension to be erected at the north end of the Club House. The building was to be 50 by 50 feet and to have twenty-three rentable rooms. A committee composed of B. A. Williams, James A. Frame, and John Livingston was appointed July 5th, 1897, to "obtain, approve and adopt plans and specifications for the erection and completion of altera-

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

tions and extension to Club House together with furnishings," and on November 9th, 1897, the committee on plans had completed its work and a building committee was appointed, the members of which were Benjamin A. Williams, James A. Frame, John Livingston and George Mulligan.

Work on the new extension was begun in the summer of 1898 and on September 27th of that year, Mr. Williams, as chairman of the Building Committee, reported that Mr. Maynicke's plans had been approved, contracts made, and the new building was well under way. The frame was reported up by November and the work completed, including alterations to the old Club House, and the building of the porte-cochère, by the spring of 1899.

As is usually the case, the original estimated cost of \$8,000.00 for the new wing and alterations to the old Club House, and \$2,000.00 for furnishings, proved to be too low, and in May, 1899, Mr. Mulligan reported that the probable cost would be \$11,500.00, exclusive of furnishings. The final report in December, 1899, informs us that the new wing with furnishings cost \$11,470.82, repairs to old Club House, \$3,361.19, giving a total of \$14,832.01.

After the north wing was built, the old parlor became the billiard room, though, strictly speaking, "Bottle Pool" was the order of the day. The pool table, heretofore in the bowling alley, was transferred to its new home and another one purchased a short time later to keep it company.

ADDITIONS TO THE CLUB HOUSE

The end of the Gay Nineties and the two decades following, witnessed many an exciting pool tournament. Chivalry, not having entirely died out by that time, the ladies were generously accorded a "hand pool" tournament one night a week; and this indeed was very popular. But for many years the real show was the almost nightly game of bottle pool between "Bill" Lahey and "Jim" Baird as opposed to William A. Avis and James A. Frame. This performance lined the walls and jammed the doorways with amused spectators. *No Reserved Seats. Standing Room Only.* But how they enjoyed it! Exasperation on the part of Mr. Frame, when he would catch "Bill" or "Jim" surreptitiously moving the balls or altering the counters, frequently culminated in that dignified gentleman, with cue threateningly raised, chasing one or the other of them half way round the room. An ever ready witticism on the part of Mr. Avis usually served to suppress the riot and the game would be resumed, though with the constant menace of another flareup before the evening was over. "But the old order changeth, yielding place to new;" and with the passing of some of the older devotees, the game gradually waned in popularity. The tables were still used occasionally, until the billiard room itself was eliminated in the enlargement of our lobby to its present size.

Up to the time of the passing of the billiard room, the fore part of our present lobby was then the lounge room of the Club. These rooms were sepa-

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

rated by a partition running the entire width of the original house, with double doors at its center. A swinging door led from the billiard room into the hall at the right and one could also enter the hall from the lounge through a door placed where a part of our present candy counter is now situated. The lounge was not a very large room, but it served well its day and generation, though it was rather uncomfortably crowded at times, especially over week-ends and holidays. The registry desk, candy and cigar counter and fireplace occupied approximately the same positions as at present, though the last has since been enlarged.

A stranger walking into our Club in those days could not mistake it for anything but the hunting and fishing club which it was. The walls were appropriately decorated with well mounted specimens of fish, birds and deer heads, showing, for the most part, the achievements of our own Club members as fishermen and hunters. The group of wood duck which still adorns the mantel of our smaller fireplace, and the mounted pickerel, were donated by Walter B. Rockwood in 1908, and about the same time Benjamin A. Williams presented to the Club a fine mounted specimen of wild cat which had been shot on the Club grounds by Joe Van Vleck some years before. The handsome buffalo head which at present hangs above the large fireplace, was presented to the Club by William H. Frame.

V

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CLUB HOUSE AND PLANT

THE CLUB HOUSE

THE addition of the south wing to the original Club House gave us a building one hundred and sixty-two feet long and when the north wing was erected, an entire length of two hundred and twelve feet.

In the years intervening between the erection of the north wing in 1899 and the present time, many alterations and improvements to the Club House, and to its service, have been accomplished which have added greatly to its interior appearance and to the comfort of members and guests. Among the minor improvements, there were, for instance, in 1908, the erection of a new men's dining room for the employees, and in the fall of 1910, the painting of the Club House and out buildings at a cost of \$1,325.00; and in the year 1914, changes and repairs to the kitchen and to the plumbing throughout the house.

In October, 1918, there came up for discussion the building of a waitresses' dormitory, as for many years there had been inadequate housing in the servants' wing of the Club House, situated west of

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

the kitchen. It was decided to build on that part of the property then used as a garden, approximately midway between the servants' wing of the Club House and the westerly wall of the enclosure. The President, at that time John D. Weston, was authorized to borrow the money and have the work done, the cost not to exceed \$3,000.00. Under Mr. Weston's able direction, the building, which proved to be both adequate and attractive, was shortly afterwards erected, and ready for occupancy by the summer of 1919. Mr. Weston, ever generous and unselfish, especially where the interests of the Club were concerned, himself advanced the \$3,000.00, the original estimate of the cost of construction, although an additional \$900.00 was needed before the project was completed. A judgment note for \$3,000.00 was given to Mr. Weston about a year later, and in November, 1920, the note was paid.

In October, 1922, some tentative plans were discussed relative to improvements in the kitchen; and in February, 1923, Henry S. Livingston submitted plans for remodeling that part of the house. At the same time there was also discussed the matter of improvements to the Club office and the possibility of removing the wall between the office and billiard room. Also, alas! One pool table was to be removed from the billiard room and so the beginning of the end of the once famous billiard room tourneys was in sight. But thus doth the march of time destroy

IMPROVEMENTS TO CLUB HOUSE AND PLANT

old idols but to build new ones, as will appear later, when one pictures the completed improvements.

The Ways and Means Committee having meanwhile been in conference with the Finance Committee, had decided that the above scheme for alterations was too comprehensive to be undertaken at that time, and so reported; but the hand of change was not to be stayed; and in March, Mr. Livingston reported that contracts had been made for these several improvements and that the work would be entirely completed by May 1st. It was completely finished by Decoration Day.

The improvements were substantially as follows:

The old "lean to" which had been used as a dining room for the male help and the other rookeries back of the chef's quarters were torn down and an extension to the house store room and ice room was built. The pastry room was extended to provide a dining room for the help and on the west side an extension was built the full length of the kitchen, and ten feet wide, to provide more working room for the chef, better dish washing facilities and more room for the waitresses. The foundations were thoroughly repaired and the chimneys rebuilt. A cellar was provided, nineteen by forty-one feet and seven feet in height. An ice room was built with insulation, and drained into the sewerage system proper. The kitchen was painted and additional windows placed therein for light and ventilation and an extra door added so the waitresses and other help

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did not have to pass through the chef's quarters. A new 60 gallon boiler and 400 gallon heater were installed to give adequate hot water supply. A new range and bake-oven was set up giving fifty per cent more range space.

The wall was removed between the office and billiard room, the ceiling in the billiard room was covered with sheet rock and the chimneys in both rooms faced with stone. Double swinging doors were placed at either end of the billiard room. The children's dining room was cleaned, painted and papered and the small office which, the year before, had been used by the bookkeeper was made into a chauffeurs' dining room.

The old laundry building was repaired as to windows and roof and the old store room in this building given over to the superintendent for storing original packages, supplies, drinks, tools, etc.

These improvements, as outlined above, with the addition of the furniture and fixtures cost a little more than nine thousand dollars, and were fully paid for by October out of the season's receipts.

An interesting, and, as it proved, a very lucky discovery was made when taking down the chimney in the billiard room, preparatory to rebuilding it. All the beams near the chimney were charred, due to the fact that the pipe from the stove simply fitted into a sleeve and there was no connection with the chimney. The smoke and flames had found their way out of the building in the space between the lathing and plaster

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and the outside boards. Why a fire had not occurred is unexplainable, unless one believes in the fairies.

We now had a lobby or lounge room, that in size was practically the length and breadth of the original Club House, and that gave a very pleasing sense of spaciousness and comfort; and to Harry Livingston must be given most of the credit for this very great improvement.

The next important improvement to be carried out for the comfort of our members and guests was undertaken in 1926. This contemplated the rebuilding and enlarging, to twice its size, of the tower which stands at the junction of the kitchen wing and the west wall of the Club House. Large wash rooms with lavatories and baths were to occupy the second and third floors with entrances from the main halls, and on the ground floor another wash room and sports room, with lockers, the latter room leading out onto the back porch, were planned. A new adequate hot water and additional sewage disposal plants were included, besides the installation of running water in all the bedrooms of the Club House.

The dining room was to be enlarged by extending it further into the south wing, provided the members' rooms needed to accomplish this extension could be obtained. Joseph Van Vleck very generously agreed to give up rooms 18, 19, 28 and 29, provided the Club would give over to his use, rooms 53 and 54 in the north wing of the house. This offer was very gratefully accepted. In the enlarging of the dining

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room it was thought necessary to remove the stairway in the wing and erect a new one at the south end of the hall. This would give additional toilet facilities for the wing.

The partitions around the children's dining room were to be removed, thereby making the living room larger and more attractive; the interior of the Club House was to be painted and decorated, new furnishings for the parlor and new floor coverings for the hall were to be supplied. The Club House was to be wired for electric lighting and fixtures were to be installed. Improvements were to be made to the men's quarters, and a new garage accommodating sixteen cars was to be constructed.

The Committee also recommended the following:

That the halls in the wing extension be wired for electricity at the expense of the Club. That the Club provide electric current for lighting the rooms in the wing extension but that the lessees provide the necessary fixtures and wiring. That if the lessees provide the necessary plumbing for the use of hot and cold water in each room of the wing, the Club will provide the hot and cold water. That the lessees of the four corner rooms on the south end of the wing be given the privilege of installing private bath rooms at their own expense in connection with the new stairway extension; but in the event of their failing to avail themselves of the opportunity, the Club may install at its own expense such additional toilet facilities as it may deem advisable.

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Some thought had been given to the project, as outlined above, in February of 1926, and in the following May, a Committee on Improvements was appointed, consisting of Dr. Clarence C. Guion, Chairman, Richard W. Lahey, Herbert D. Brown, Henry S. Livingston and John D. Mills. The Committee made a tentative report to the Board in August, outlining its plans and advising that as the contemplated cost would be about \$20,000.00, a debenture bond issue not exceeding that amount be considered at the Annual Stockholders' meeting. This was done, the matter thoroughly discussed by the stockholders, the plan approved in principle, and the Board authorized to continue the Committee and request it to bring detailed plans before a special meeting of the stockholders.

This meeting was held at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria on October 22nd, 1926, the proposition of the Committee was approved with only one negative vote and forty-three bonds were subscribed for at this time. On the same date at the regular quarterly meeting of the Board, a resolution was passed to the effect that the indebtedness of the Club be increased from \$10,750.00 to \$30,750.00 and that a meeting of the stockholders be called for January 15th, 1927, to take action on approval or disapproval of the proposed increase of the indebtedness.

At the October meeting the Committee on Improvements was discharged with the sincere thanks of the Board, and a Building Committee was author-

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ized to proceed with the plan. This Committee was composed of John D. Mills, Chairman, Herbert D. Brown, D. M. Van Vliet, Dr. Clarence C. Guion, William C. Mansfield and William L. Archer, President ex-officio.

The Special Stockholders' meeting was held on the date called for in the above resolution of the Board and unanimous approval was given for the proposed increase of the indebtedness. The Board at a special meeting on the same date formally declared the indebtedness increased. The Treasurer was thereupon authorized to issue eighty ten-year debenture gold bonds in the sum of \$250.00 each; said bonds to bear interest at the rate of five per cent, payable annually. The bonds were to be numbered serially and provision made in each and every year, beginning with 1928 or before, if desired, to retire by lot eight or more bonds. The Building Committee reported on May 20th, 1927, that work in the sum of \$20,099.00 had been contracted for, and very good progress on the improvements had been made. The Board accepted the report with thanks and with special appreciation for the work done by Mr. Van Vliet. This very important improvement was finally completed in the summer of 1927.

WATER SUPPLY

When a pump was installed at the spring and the first tank erected, the kitchen, laundry and wash



PRESENT CLUB HOUSE

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rooms were supplied with running water by this means, but the sleeping rooms in the Club House and the cottages were fed by hand, so to speak, and this condition went on for many years.

On March 5th, 1885, a rule was adopted regarding the consumption of ice, wood and water from the Club House tank by the cottages and the fixing of prices for the use of the same. A minute of October 26th, 1891, reads: "Executive Committee be empowered to supply Club House with running water. Building of cistern referred to Executive Committee with power." No attempt was made at this time to carry out either of these suggestions. In June, 1904, it was resolved by the Board that the occupants of cottages and those having stables, if desiring the Club to supply them with water, might install pipes at their own expense, and water would be supplied them at a charge of \$7.00 a year. This charge was never made. In the spring of 1913 a new foundation was built for the water tank and in 1923 a new tank was erected on the tower.

At a special meeting of the Board, July 19th, 1919, the President and Treasurer were appointed a committee of two to get estimates for the purchase and installation of additional water supply for the cottage and room owners, and at a regular meeting of the same date the opinion was expressed that additional water supply from Wolf Lake should be installed as soon as possible.

The plans as suggested by William A. Case & Son,

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considered the laying of a two-inch water line from Wolf Lake to a tank of 10,000 gallons capacity, to be located between the Baird and Merrill cottages. The cost of this undertaking was to be underwritten largely by the cottage and wing owners and to a small extent by the Club; and while there was at first general consent to the plan, it was abandoned because the final estimate greatly exceeded the original one.

It was not until 1926, during the incumbency of William L. Archer as Chairman of the Executive Committee, that the suggestion was seriously considered of supplying the entire Club House with running water and improving the supply to the cottages, and the program to this effect was inaugurated and carried to completion during the first year of Henry S. Livingston's term as President. Mr. Archer and Dr. Gould were appointed the Committee to carry out the water improvement plans. A summary of the recommendations follows:

1. An additional pump to serve in case of breakdown.
2. A larger tank to meet the increasing demand for water between pumping periods.
3. A greater pressure to give adequate supply to cottages on a higher elevation than the Club.
4. An additional reservoir at the spring to conserve the water which was being wasted during the night.

All the above plans were accomplished. The new tank was placed on Mount Ogden to take advantage

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of the elevation and at the same time to eliminate an unsightly structure at the Club House, which would have towered about twenty-five feet over the present building. It was found by analysis of our guest book that a considerable part of our attendance originated in cottages and approximately fifty per cent of the water, except for culinary purposes, would necessarily be used by the cottages. The new location of the tank, therefore, permitted a much better distribution as most of the cottages are grouped toward that side. This tank has a capacity of 25,000 gallons. The cost of this great improvement was paid for out of current revenue.

While the water supply was being studied, a gauging of the spring showed it to be flowing 50,000 gallons a day. This, of course, was in the spring of the year, but in any event, it is a remarkable supply as witnessed by the performance during the drought of 1930. As a careful estimate of the water used by both Club and cottages amounts to only about 7,000 gallons daily, at the height of the season, there would seem to be little fear of a failing water supply. William L. Archer, because of the great amount of time and attention to detail, spent by him in improving the Club water supply, deserves the largest share of credit for its accomplishment.

In January, 1922, an attempt was made to dig a well back of the south wing of the Club House for a winter water supply. It was walled up when it showed about ten feet of water, but as it was decided

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that this was surface water, no use was made of the well. Some idea was then considered of boring an artesian well but this suggestion also came to nought. Finally, in the summer of 1929, Mr. Mansfield put an underground reservoir in back of the wing, and this, in conjunction with an electric pump outfit, provides water for the wash rooms during the winter. The capacity, 10,000 gallons, is sufficient to last several weeks and is replenished by pumping from the spring on mild days.

Our water supply system now embraces an apparently inexhaustible spring; two reservoirs at the spring, each having a capacity of six thousand gallons; two gasoline pumps capable of pumping at the rate of thirty to thirty-five gallons per minute; a storage tank of twenty-five thousand gallons capacity and an underground reservoir at the Club House for the winter water supply.

THE LIGHTING SYSTEM

It was not until the beginning of 1905, that definite consideration was given to improving the lighting system at the Club. The first reference thereto is found in the minutes of a Directors' meeting held January 27th, 1905, at which time a letter from Charles S. Gregor was read, offering to sell to the Club a dynamo and engine for \$450.00 as part of the equipment looking towards the installation of a lighting plant. A month later the letter was an-

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swered to the effect that it was considered inexpedient at this time to take up the question of electric lighting. In June of this same year, however, there was approved a proposal of the Tirrill Gas Machine Lighting Company of New York, to furnish, deliver and set up a No. 4-100 Light Gas Machine for lighting the Club House, the cost to be \$460.00. Shortly thereafter this system was installed and continued in use until 1926, when it was replaced by electricity. Candles were still used in the bedrooms and the gas plant furnished light for the lobby, parlor, billiard and dining room only. This might be called, with apologies to Kipling, "The Light That Failed;" and Wednesday evenings, when the guests were busy sizing up one another over the card tables, seemed to be the appointed times for our gas machine to fall short of its ideals. This frequent occurrence was well brought out by "Observations at the Club" or the "Forest Lake Lyrics of 1922" by Joe Campbell and Bert Hendrickson in the following verse:

"We have got a set of lights
That come and go in starts;
And when they're low, the players pass
Their diamonds off for hearts."

There would be a hurried call for "Charlie" Sadler, and soon one would hear him running frantically out of the Club House to put another nickel in the slot or grind the machine, or whatever it was that was needed to tune up the lights.

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A new lighting system was considered in November, 1916, and in the spring of 1917, and considerable correspondence was had with the Isolite Company regarding the installation of their type of plant. Finally, in March, a communication was received to the effect that the company had temporarily gone out of business and the Tirrill people were called upon to make what repairs they could to the existing plant. Discussions took place from time to time over the next few years regarding the installation of electric lighting, but it was not until May 20th, 1921, that a committee consisting of Herbert D. Brown, Frederick M. Johnson and William L. De Bost, was appointed to look into the matter. A fourth member in the person of John D. Weston was added to this committee in the following August when the first report was made to the Board. In November a further report was made, accepted and placed on file. The Committee at first considered the proposition of securing current from the power company at Hawley, but this was deemed impracticable because of the cost of miles of wiring and pole erection necessary to connect up with the power line. Next there was recommended the installation of a Fairbanks-Morse system, but the cost of this was also considered prohibitive at that time and the entire matter was dropped for a number of years.

In 1926, when the revamping of the wash rooms, enlarging of the dining room and improving of the water supply were up for consideration, the electric

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lighting proposition was also included in the plan of campaign, the Delco System decided upon, and promptly installed. The original intention, when planning for lights, was simply to provide an electric lamp of about 15 watts capacity in each bedroom, not with the thought that it would be adequate, but just to eliminate the dangerous lamps and candles. In like manner a minimum provision was made for the rest of the Club House. Much to the amazement of the Chairman of the Committee, a few weeks after the lights had been installed, larger lamps were found to have been substituted and he was immediately confronted with the necessity of adding another generating unit. The writer here takes the liberty of quoting the Chairman: "It only takes a taste of luxury to start the ball rolling." The additional generating unit was, perforce, installed and has given very satisfactory service. New batteries were not required until the spring of 1931, when they were put in at a cost of about \$800.00.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

From 1899 to 1905, the Club House to Mast Hope telephone line gave the only service we had. In the early summer of 1905, a long distance telephone service was inaugurated by a contract with the Hawley and Lackawaxen Telephone Company. The line to the Club began at a point near Lake Teedyuscong, thence running along the highway to the southeast

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corner of the oat field lying due east of the Club House; thence west past the cave or roof house to the porte-cochère of the Club House. The Club received the right to string the wires of its telephone line to Mast Hope on the poles of the Company from the corner of the oat field to the Club House at the Company's expense. The cost of the service was \$8.00 per year for the business of the Club and the tolls of members and guests were paid to the Company. For many years the service was unsatisfactory. In May of 1921, the matter of a contribution of \$200.00 to the Company for the improvement of the service was discussed and the contribution made; but it was not until June of 1926, when a new contract was entered into between the Club and the above-mentioned company, that real improvement in the service resulted. This new contract provided for a private line between the Club House and the central station in Bohemia; the Club agreed to erect the necessary poles to the Company's line near the McCoy Camp and to supply the necessary wire and install the same from the Club House to Bohemia. The Company, on its part, contracted to maintain this as a private line. The Club agreed to pay an annual rental of \$1.00 for the use of the Company's poles. In 1922, the telephone line from the Club to Mast Hope required some rather extensive repairing and this was done in the spring of that year. The telephone service is at present very satisfactory.

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DRAINAGE

Our Club has been most fortunately treated by nature in her arrangement of lakes, woods, mountain peaks and views, many of which are evident to most of our members, but there are few who realize how our drainage system was simplified by the natural contour of the land to the west of the Club House.

Since our water supply came from the spring near Corilla and since Wolf Lake was used for bathing and recreation, it was essential that our sewage should never drain in either of these directions. It was soon discovered by some of the early members that just beyond the stone wall to the west of the orchard was an area which drained southward protected from Wolf Lake at first by a ridge not more than three feet high and later by the stone ledge where the shooting gallery was located. At first a good sized cesspool was constructed here and all sewage from the house flowed into it. Any excess not taken care of by seepage and evaporation was allowed to overflow into the shallow ravine to the south. As the amount of water supply increased it became more and more evident that the overflow was an excellent fly and mosquito breeder and a real menace to the Club and it was decided that an effort should be made to protect this area from surface water.

By enlarging the clearing to the south and by the use of cesspools and sub-surface drains it has been possible to take care of the greater part of our sewage

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by bacterial action, seepage and evaporation. Considerable difficulty had been found, however, in preventing and sealing several leaks which have allowed water to come to the surface of the ground on lower levels and, as the supply and use of water has greatly increased during the past ten years, the difficulties of caring for it without any surface drainage has been greatly augmented. By protecting and maintaining the present equipment and by more thoroughly clearing the area where surface water may appear, together with the generous use of oil during the season when mosquitoes and flies propagate, it is felt that any serious menace to the Club from this source can be easily averted.

VI

THE COTTAGE COLONY

A RULE respecting building sites for prospective cottage builders was incorporated in the by-laws adopted and published as long ago as 1889, and, in general, corresponds to Article XIX of the present by-laws.

In the original by-law, mention was made of "a nominal rental." The plans were to be submitted to the Executive Committee within three months from the date of application for the site, the building of the cottage commenced within three months after the approval of the plans and the cottage completed within one year thereafter.

The present by-law is as follows: "1. The Board of Directors may lease to members only, for such term and upon such conditions as they consider for the best interests of the Club, plots of ground upon which such members may erect cottages. All cottages erected by members on ground so leased shall remain personal property, not a part of the real estate, and shall belong to the members building them. 2. In the event of a cottage being destroyed and not being rebuilt within one year, thereafter, all rights of owner to plot shall cease. 3. Cottages shall be occupied by the families of members only, to-

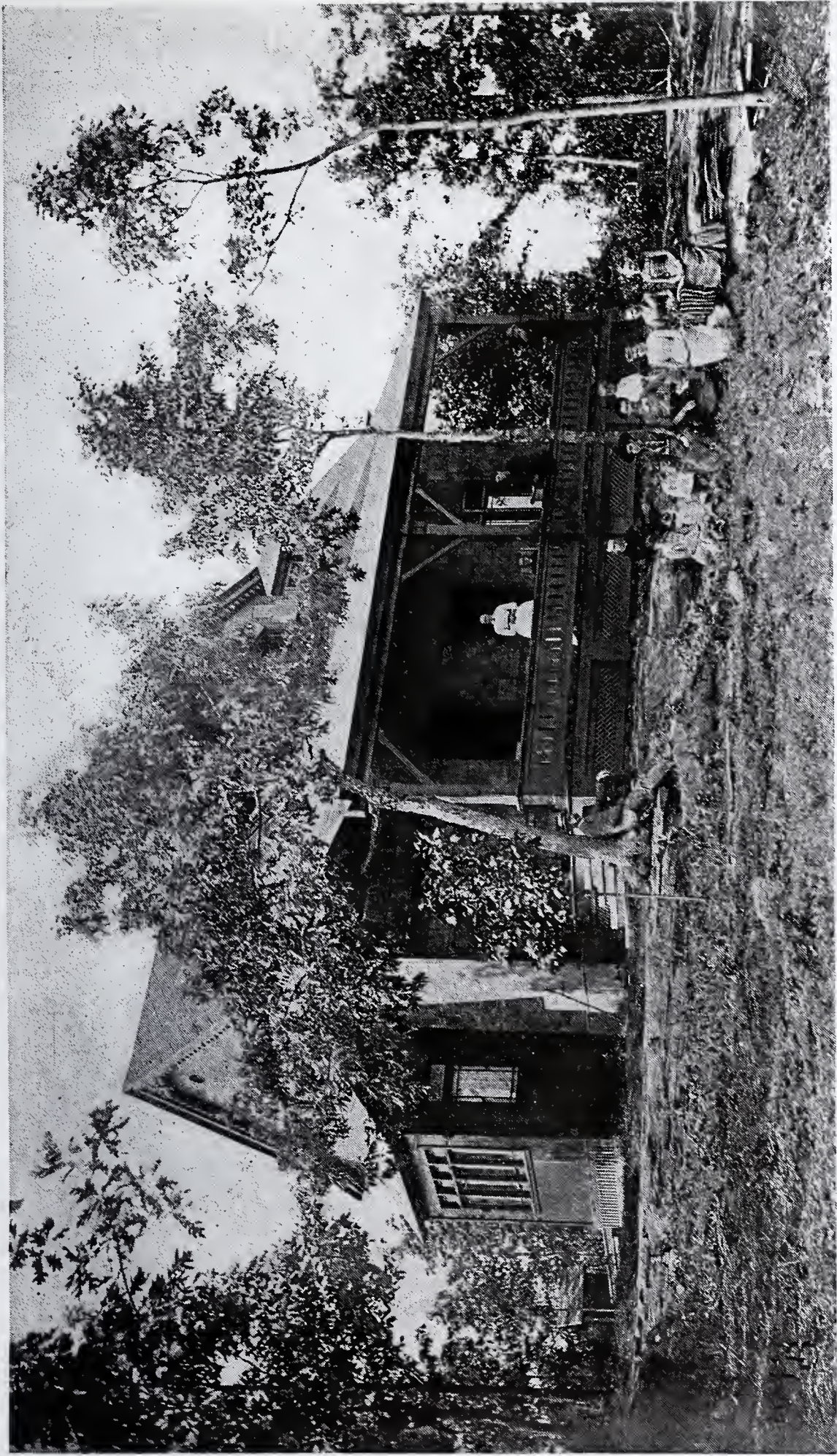
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gether with their guests, all of whom shall be required to take their meals from the Club."

According to our present by-laws, the Landscape Engineer shall advise the Board or Executive Committee in all cases concerning sites, and the general shape and color of cottages, and it is within his province to decide as to the removal of trees and shrubs as contemplated in the plans of the builders.

The cottage colony, which of late years has grown so rapidly, was at first rather slow in developing. As heretofore stated, Edward G. Black's cottage, built at about the same time as the original Club House and within the enclosure, was the first one erected. The second application to build, made in September, 1886, by Alfred B. Ogden and John Davidson was for a double cottage on lots Nos. 1 and 2 of the Association map. The cottage was built in 1887 on the site of the present Brackett cottage, formerly owned by John D. Weston. It was of stone construction, looked not unlike the present cottage and Mr. Ogden occupied the western and Mr. Davidson the eastern half of the building.

It is recorded that in May, 1887, Messrs. Ogden and Davidson applied for "attendance" at their cottages, at an increase of \$1.00 per week for each person lodging in the cottages. "Attendance" meant the furnishing of water, ice and wood and the emptying of slops. This cottage caught fire from some unknown cause in 1890 and was totally destroyed,



DAVIDSON-OGDEN COTTAGE

THE COTTAGE COLONY

and Mr. Weston's cottage was erected on the same spot in 1906.

In May, 1887, Dr. O. B. Douglas applied for permission to erect a tent or tents on lot No. 10. This application was granted for the ensuing season, and in January, 1888, the doctor applied for a license to build a cottage on the same site, but the plan was not carried out.

The third cottage was erected by William A. Avis on lot No. 3 some time in 1888, a license to build having been issued in May of that year. This cottage, called by Mr. Avis, "Wren Villa," later became the property of William Burrows, and is now owned by William L. Archer.

Mr. A. O. Ronaldson built his cottage on lot No. 12 a year or two after the Avis cottage had been erected. In 1891, shortly after Mr. Ronaldson's decease, the cottage was bought by John Davidson and occupied by him for many years. James Baird was the next occupant until 1926 since which time John A. Miller has been the owner.

The Marshall cottage, next in order, completed the first five cottages at The Forest Lake Club. This is the present William Archer cottage. It was built in the spring of 1891 by Oscar F. Marshall, later, in 1903 bought by Charles MacGregor and sold by him to William Archer that same year.

For many years no other cottages were built except Mr. Weston's as referred to above, and as late as 1910 there were still but five cottages at the Club.

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This can readily be accounted for when it is recalled that much increased accommodation was provided during this period by the additions to the Club House and especially as, in the building of the south wing, provision was made for the ownership of rooms.

Cottage building was not resumed until 1914 when William T. Lahey received permission to build. He chose a site just outside the northern boundary of the enclosure and slightly to the east of the present William Archer cottage. The well-seasoned timbers in the old barn formerly belonging to George Muligan were utilized by Mr. Lahey for the frame of his building and a most attractive cottage was the result of his efforts. Mr. Lahey's cottage is not only popular because of its hospitable occupants, but it seems to have a peculiar attraction for some of our golfers. The cottage has been thoroughly bombarded for years, and numberless golf balls are annually lost in the rough along the eastern end; yet one rarely hears a complaint from the owner. Of course, his good nature is proverbial, but we cannot escape from the thought that the Law of Compensation is at work.

Thereafter, beginning about 1917, the development of the colony proceeded very rapidly. And the end is not yet, though there are now in all eighteen cottages on the Club grounds, besides four others, which, though belonging to members, are just off the reservation proper. In fact, so popular has

THE COTTAGE COLONY

cottage building become that a list of the present cottage owners is almost tantamount to a roster of the Club's membership.

The order of their building since 1917, the specific dates indicating when the cottages were completed, is as follows:

Emile S. Harper.....	May, 1917
Frank L. Dyer.....	May 30th, 1917
Charles W. Campbell.....	September 20th, 1917
Joseph M. Merrill.....	May, 1919
William L. De Bost	May 30th, 1920
Henry S. Livingston.....	October 12th, 1920
John D. Mills.....	May, 1925
H. Rodger Elgar	May 30th, 1925
J. Monroe Graham.....	June, 1926
George W. Will.....	May 28th, 1929
Norman R. Frame.....	December 11th, 1930
George W. Reynolds.....	May 29th, 1931

It is of interest to note that the matter of the allocation of cottage sites and the construction of cottages received the formal attention of the Board in 1890. The minutes of a meeting held in the spring of that year contain a notation of instructions to the Clerk of the Board to keep a record book of leases and licenses and to insert a map of the grounds therein.

For many years the question of an adequate water supply for the cottages presented quite a problem,

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especially as the higher parts of the ridge began to be utilized for the cottage sites; but the large reservoir erected on Mount Ogden in 1926 has solved this difficulty effectually.

Some of the earlier built cottages still depend upon kerosene lamps for lighting, but the later ones are equipped with individual electric lighting plants and in some cases electric refrigerators.

The greater number at present also have their own garages, in some instances in the one unit, as is, of course, more desirable from the standpoint of appearance and the conservation of space.

Many of the cottages are of stone construction, all of them are attractive, and they vary sufficiently in their architecture to avoid monotony and add to a pleasing prospect. When the trees are bare of leaves, one sees quite a village on the ridge to the north of the Club House, while in summer, most of them are effectually hidden by the dense foliage, this being equally true in respect to the approach from the lake.

VII

A CLUB TRADITION

SUNDAY observance has been one of the hallowed institutions of The Forest Lake Club from its very beginning and no matter what may be the individual views of some of us of the present generation, it must be admitted that the Sunday services, carried on throughout each season, have been instrumental in giving to the Club a certain tone and character that have raised it considerably above the level of most clubs of this kind.

The first services were held in Edward G. Black's cottage and were conducted by him. This continued for the first three or four years, after which they were held in the Club House parlor as at the present time. Apparently the custom of inviting clergymen to conduct the services was initiated early in the history of the Club; for, on July 5th, 1890, there was a Board resolution to the effect that clergymen preaching at Forest Lake be entertained without charge. Besides this, the minister was tendered a moderate fee for his services.

For two or three years B. F. Judson had charge of the Sunday services. He was followed by George N. Williams, Sr., who, in November, 1895, was tendered a vote of thanks by the Board for having taken

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

charge during the previous summer, the assumption being that he had personally conducted the services during the season. Mr. Williams continued to serve until February, 1909, when he resigned. He was succeeded by James A. Frame, who, in turn, gave very efficient and devoted service until his death in 1920.

Many of our present day members can bear witness to Mr. Frame's success in shepherding the flock on Sunday mornings; especially on beautiful Sunday mornings, when lake and woods, blue sky and bright sunshine called so insistently. There were few cottages in those days; there was little legitimate excuse for leaving the environs of the Club House between breakfast and church time, and Mr. Frame, having passed early and favorable judgment on the buckwheat cakes, took up his station on the front porch. From this vantage point, few strollers, no matter what their nonchalance or *savoir faire*, escaped him. One can see him striding up and down the piazza, as the time approached for the service, vigorously ringing a large dinner bell and gathering them in! Nor, under his régime, was there any chance, during a long prayer, of stepping quietly out of the window on to the back porch and away, as, it is whispered, has been done. James A. Frame's religion was alive not one but seven days in the week—and for that reason, if no other, commanded the respect of all.

In the following year, 1921, Mr. Frame's daughter, Mrs. Elmer R. Gregor, took over the Chairmanship of the Sabbath Service Committee, serving well

A CLUB TRADITION

and faithfully until 1925. Mrs. Everett W. Gould served with distinction for the next few years, until 1928, since which time the Committee has been in the capable hands of Charles B. Johnes as Chairman, and Mrs. Frederick Brackett as Vice-Chairman. Too much credit cannot be given to these committee heads for their valuable services. They have done their work well—a work which can so easily call forth adverse criticism but of which, one is happy to say, very little has ever been in evidence.

As so many of the Club members have been residents of New York and its vicinity, quite naturally the greater number of visiting clergy have come from the metropolitan area; but Scranton, Binghamton and the nearer towns of Honesdale and Hawley have contributed their share of able speakers.

Frederick D. Storey, a member of the Club for many years, an ordained minister, and, incidentally, a very ardent and skillful fisherman, frequently conducted service; sometimes for the better part of the season. He was a man of exceptionally broad general knowledge and this, combined with his wonderful command of English, contributed a charm to his discourse that few who have had the opportunity of hearing him can forget. A large audience was always assured when Mr. Storey was to be the speaker.

VIII

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Rows of digits and financial statistics prove very dry reading as a rule. In a history of this kind Indian signs are much more apt to attract the eye than dollar signs. It is, therefore, with some sense of apology that the writer offers this chapter, which necessarily contains so much of this usually uninteresting material. In another chapter, relating principally to the building of the original Club House, there was described in some detail the financial transactions instituted for the purpose of securing funds for that particular purpose as well as for carrying out the general plans of the Association.

As occurs in many ventures of this kind, subscriptions to purchase stock and bonds often fail of completion. This, we have seen, occurred with the original issue of capital stock of \$3,000.00 and resulted, at the first Directors' meeting, in a resolution that shares of stock, unpaid for after a certain date, be declared forfeited to the Association and offered for sale. This difficulty, along with that of collecting arrearages of dues, led to individual loans by members for carrying on the operations of the Association; and it was for the purpose of paying these

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members' claims, that new fundings from time to time were required.

The various steps in this direction as nearly as they could be ascertained from the Association's minutes were as follows:

In March, 1883, the capital stock was increased to \$10,000.00 and a determined effort to obtain new members was made. At the same time subscriptions were obtained for 20 shares of stock at \$200.00 each, to provide funds for building the Club House.

In September of the same year, 100 bonds of \$100.00 each, bearing six per cent interest and maturing in five years from October 1st, 1883, were issued, secured by a mortgage on the property of the Association.

On November 12th, 1883, the Board authorized the issuance of sufficient stock at par value to pay in full all claims of members. On the same date the Board authorized the issuance of six per cent bonds of one hundred dollars each, maturing in five years in an aggregate amount equal to one-half the total amount of paid for stock, including the stock issued in payment of claims as referred to above.

In August, 1887, an auditing committee was appointed by the President, which in February, 1888, reported that the resources of the Association amounted to \$15,445.26, and the liabilities amounted to \$17,131.56, of which \$1,273.91 represented investments in property. A suggestion was made at this time as to the desirability of paying the open

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indebtedness either by assessment, increasing the capital stock, or by placing a mortgage on the property.

On March 17th, 1888, authorization was made to issue 50 bonds of \$100.00 each at five per cent interest, maturing in 1900. The bonds were to be disposed of by exchanging 40 bonds for a like number of the bonds maturing in December of the same year (evidently referring to the bond issue of November 12th, 1883) and the remaining ten bonds were to be disposed of to the highest bidder among members of the Association.

Again, in May, 1888, for the purpose of borrowing money for the use of the Association, it was ordered that bonds of \$100.00 each, paying five per cent interest and maturing in twelve years, be issued in a sum equal to one-half of the amount of paid up stock of the Association. These bonds were also to be secured by a mortgage on the real estate of the Association.

In October, 1889, the Treasurer was instructed to pay to the bond holders the arrearages of interest up to July, 1889, also the arrearages of interest due Dr. Hadden upon his notes for monies, amounting to \$2,345.30, advanced by him at various times to the Association. Dr. Hadden announced his willingness to reduce the rate of interest on his bonds to four per cent and to extend the same for five years. His proposition was accepted and the clerk was appointed to solicit from the other bond holders a like reduction. It does not appear from the minutes of the

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meetings at which these various transactions took place, to just what extent these bond issues were taken, but apparently about \$4,000.00 had been subscribed. It is noted, however, that at this time Dr. Hadden held thirty-one bonds of the Association.

A report of August 19th, 1890, showed the Treasury overdrawn to the extent of \$1,232.72 and the total liabilities beyond the capital stock and bonds amounting to \$8,456.32. The Treasurer urged that the annual dues be doubled so as to approach a self-supporting basis.

On February 17th, 1891, the debts of the Association amounted to \$8,809.32. This included bonds amounting to \$4,000.00 and interest, notes \$2,345.00 and interest; overdraft; unpaid bills, etc. The problem of financing the Association in order to pay off all the above-mentioned items and to leave in the Treasury an amount sufficient to commence the season of 1891, called forth a recommendation to issue bonds of \$100.00 each, totaling \$10,000.00, payable any time within five years, bearing four per cent interest.

It was also recommended that the dues be increased from \$25.00 to \$30.00 per annum, that the rates for table board for cottagers and wing-holders be raised from \$7.00 a week to \$1.25 a day, and that the seven and one-half per cent rebate which had applied to families staying a full month at the Club be rescinded as a fixed rule. It was resolved that this scheme for funding the debt be brought to the attention of the members, and a committee of three was appointed

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to solicit subscriptions in such form of obligations as counsel may advise, and to report at an adjourned meeting. A report of the funding committee was made on March 3rd, 1891, and it was resolved that the Wolf Lake purchase be embraced in the proposed funding scheme. However, on March 30th, the minutes tell us that this debt-funding plan, as amended, was dropped. On October 26th, 1891, it was moved that the interest due on outstanding notes be paid up to April 1st, 1891, and on bonds up to July 1st, 1891.

The Club had been going for about eight years before it began, even in a feeble way, to find itself financially; but in November, 1890, at which time William A. Avis was Treasurer, it showed a profit for the year of \$499.39. A lengthy inventory was made at this time by Mr. Avis, some of the principal items of which were the following:

Cost of land and improvements	\$ 4,000.00
Club House	10,000.00
Bowling Alley	1,500.00
Barns	1,500.00
5 wagons, 1 sled	350.00
2 cows, 2 oxen	80.00
4 horses	300.00
12 rockers	36.00

Among the household furnishings set down are pickle dishes, gravy boats and tooth-pick cups. Mr. Avis proved to be an outstanding Treasurer and was par-

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ticularly thanked by the Board for his excellent reports.

In spite of hard sledding, the Club's property did increase in value during these first few years; value translated into the acquisition of more land, general improvements and the erection of the Club House and other buildings.

Again in February, 1892, there was cause for rejoicing in that there was a balance remaining in the Treasury of \$699.69. About a year later the burden of debt again rested heavily on the shoulders of the Board, and in February, 1893, it recommended that the stockholders subscribe \$100.00 for each and every share held by them for the purpose of liquidating the indebtedness of the Association; amounting in all to about \$12,000.00, in addition to the bonds which amounted to \$4,000.00. The Treasurer was directed at this time to sell no share of stock for less than \$250.00. By November the subscriptions amounted to but \$3,100.00, this amount including fourteen notes of \$100.00 each given for the Wolf Lake purchase and one note of \$150.00 which amount had been advanced to the Association by George N. Williams, Sr., one of the subscribers to the Wolf Lake purchase fund, in October, 1882.

Considerable difficulty during the early years of the Club's history had been experienced in the collection of dues. It is recorded that in November, 1895, and May, 1897, there were owing to the Association from this prospective source of revenue, \$1,160.85

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and \$923.22 respectively. In a few instances recourse was had to an authorized collector or to law to enforce payment and in quite a number of cases the stock certificate was turned in to the Treasury in lieu of unpaid dues.

Apropos of the raising of funds it may be of interest to record that back in 1885 the Executive Committee was empowered to lease the blue stone quarries on the Association lands situated just to the north of Forest Lake. The quarries were leased in the fall of 1900 for a period of one year from October 1st, to Walter B. Rockwood. Another instance of the methods employed to raise funds is shown in a report from the superintendent in January, 1886, that the "team and driver was employed hauling at Hawley on advantageous terms to the Association;" also that "he could, if allowed, cut and sell railway ties at 65 cents and 45 cents." He was given this authority. From the beginning of the Club in 1882 and continuing until 1888 there was gathered and sold, annually, the cranberry crop from the marsh lands at the outlet of Little Corilla (Forest Lake). From the records we learn that a contract was made with the pickers for one-half of the net proceeds.

The selling of timber from the Club lands was first recorded in January, 1888, when the President, Dr. Hadden, was authorized to appoint a committee to sell lumber on the east side of Mount Hadden. In the same year there was considered a contract for cutting railway ties at 15 cents each and excelsior

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wood at one-half of the net proceeds. A mill for the manufacture of excelsior was located on Mast Hope Creek near the village of Mast Hope. In 1908, it is noted that about three thousand feet of lumber had been cut and sent to the mill, and two years later, in May, 1910, the stockholders authorized the sale of the standing and fallen timber for not less than \$5,000.00 on a tract situated on the east side of Mount Hadden, with the proviso that the money received from the sale should not be used for current expenses, but that it be applied to the reduction of the outstanding indebtedness or to permanent improvements of the Club House grounds. The timber committee reported shortly afterwards that \$5,600.00 had been received from the sale of the timber and it was decided that \$2,000.00 be paid to Dr. Hadden on his mortgage, \$2,000.00 be used for improving and building the road to Mast Hope and the balance be placed in the bank at interest.

In November of the same year another stand of timber on the Club property, west of Bald Hill Road from a line one hundred feet south of and parallel with the Honesdale Road, was offered for sale at \$2,000.00. The last sale of timber took place about 1918 when the chestnut blight affected so many of our trees. All of the chestnuts were marked for the woodsman's axe as were many of our other trees that had been affected by the blight.

On January 23rd, 1894, there was instituted the custom of sending annually to every stockholder a

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copy of the Treasurer's yearly report. This custom was omitted for several years but since about 1923 has been resumed. Until 1897, when debenture bonds were issued for the building of the north wing of the Club House, a summary of the various transactions shows that although many refunding and revenue raising plans had been attempted, the forty Association bonds of \$100.00 each, authorized in March, 1888, still remained the sole bonded indebtedness of the Club constituting a first mortgage on its real estate.

The amount of \$3,100.00 subscribed in 1893 to reduce the indebtedness at that time of \$12,000.00, was apparently partly taken care of by the subscribers accepting treasury stock of the Association, this, to some extent, accounting for the fact that a number of members have, at various times, held more than the single share that was required to constitute a stock-holding member.

In August of 1894 additional accommodations at the Club House were considered and a committee, reporting on this matter in October following, proposed as a means of raising funds for this purpose the issuing of debenture bonds. These bonds were to be issued in the value of \$100.00 to the amount of \$7,500.00, the interest to be at six per cent per annum, the bonds to be paid for out of surplus receipts from rooms in the proposed extension (this was later amended) and the Association to incur no liability by reason of the said bonds except as therein stated.

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It was not until May, 1897, that plans and estimates had been worked out satisfactorily. The estimated cost of the new building and furnishings was put at \$10,000.00, and at a Stockholders' meeting held May 25th, 1897, the Board of Directors was authorized to raise this amount by issuing debenture notes or bonds. Six thousand dollars had been subscribed by September, 1897, and the whole amount, \$10,000.00, by September 27th, 1898. The subscribers were as follows:

William J. Shields	\$ 100.00
John Graham	100.00
Joseph Van Vleck	1,400.00
George Mulligan	1,300.00
Alexander Hadden	1,000.00
John Livingston	900.00
John C. Umberfield	500.00
George N. Williams, Jr.	500.00
Benjamin A. Williams	500.00
George N. Williams	500.00
Robert Maynicke	1,000.00
James A. Frame	500.00
Oscar T. Marshall	500.00
William Irvine	200.00
Stephen Kelly	500.00
William Archer	500.00

An agreement in the debenture bonds as issued was, that fifteen per cent of the gross annual receipts be

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set aside to be paid to the holders of these bonds and in 1908 it is noted that a sinking fund was created for this purpose. No actual payments into this fund were made, although it was shown on the balance sheets of 1908 and 1909 as a liability of the Club.

The Club was refinanced in 1909. In November of that year, Dr. Hadden offered to loan the Club on first mortgage, covering its real estate, the sum of \$14,000.00, for ten years at four per cent; the Club to have the privilege of paying off at any interest date portions of principal in sums of \$500.00, or multiples thereof. This mortgage loan, together with the amount realized from the sale of treasury stock, was to be used by the Club to liquidate its present indebtedness, consisting of \$10,000.00 of debenture bonds, notes, and first mortgage of \$4,000.00. Thus the debenture bonds and first mortgage bonds disappeared as liabilities from the annual balance sheet. The resolution prohibiting the sale of stock for less than \$250.00 per share, heretofore adopted, was at this time rescinded and the stock was offered for sale to subscribers at \$200.00 per share. Before this refinancing took place, it appeared that the stock of the Club was worthless. When it was discovered shortly after, that the Club stock had a book value of about \$400.00 per share there was no trouble in selling our members all the treasury stock at \$200.00 per share, which left the Club in the best financial condition it had ever enjoyed.

The Hadden mortgage, which bears the date of

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January 7th, 1910, has had two extensions, the first one to January 7th, 1920, and the second to January 7th, 1930. It has already been noted that \$2,000.00 of the proceeds from the sale of timber in 1910 was used to reduce this mortgage, and further small reductions brought it down to \$7,500.00 by 1918. Over the two following years the mortgage was increased to \$10,500.00 but by 1921 it had been again reduced to \$7,000.00, and there is now a balance due of \$6,000.00.

When the Case property was purchased in December, 1922, designated in the chapter on Acreage as the "Sixth Purchase," the Club assumed a five year mortgage of \$4,250.00 at six per cent, later extended to December 1st, 1932. This mortgage was first assigned to O. M. Spettigue and later bought by the Wayne County Savings Bank, the present holder, in February, 1931. A payment of \$1,000.00 was made on January 1st, 1932, and this indebtedness now stands at \$3,250.00.

An increase of the indebtedness of the Club took place in 1927 when debenture bonds to the amount of \$20,000.00 were issued for improvements to the Club House. The bonds were first subscribed for on January 26th, 1927, and the total issue of twenty thousand dollars was fully subscribed on March 24th, 1927. This speaks eloquently for the spirit of the Club members. Amortization was authorized and began on October 21st, 1927, and has proceeded since that date.

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The following statement summarizes the bond issue:

Total issue	\$20,000.00
Bonds called October, 1927 . .	\$2,000.00
Bonds called October, 1928 . .	2,000.00
Bonds called October, 1929 . .	3,000.00
Bonds called October, 1930 . .	3,000.00
Bonds called October, 1931 . .	3,000.00
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Balance due May 1st, 1932	\$ 7,000.00

While the intention had been to retire all the bonds within ten years from the funding date, there remains after five years from such date, as will be seen from the above statement, but \$7,000.00 still payable; a fact that reflects great credit upon the present financial management of the Club.

The fixed liabilities of the Club may be summarized as follows:

Mortgage (Mrs. Charles K. Thomas)	\$6,000.00
Mortgage (Wayne County Savings Bank)	3,250.00
Bond issue	7,000.00

For many years, in fact ever since the beginning of the Club, borrowing money had been resorted to in order to begin the season's operations. With the aid of generously inclined members, of whom we had not a few, this was not a serious difficulty, but it was finally decided that a more suitable method of financing the early season should be adopted. At the sug-

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gestion of Harry Livingston, there was instituted in February, 1924, a Special Reserve Fund or as it is now called a "Working Fund." This was for the purpose of loaning monies to the general fund of the Club. It was provided that all loans from the Working Fund for Club House operations were to be repaid, if money was available, before the end of the Club year and if this were not possible that the loss should be liquidated from the profits of the following year. No permanent reductions of this fund were to be made without the agreement of two-thirds of the Directors. The fund was raised by subscriptions of 49 regular and 13 associate members and amounted to \$2,480.00. This plan has worked out so successfully that the fund now amounts, with accumulated interest, to over \$3,000.00, with the probability of its increasing to a reserve fund of substantial proportions within the next few years.

While not strictly a part of the financial transactions involved in carrying on the Club, it seems fitting to include in this chapter some mention of the Gratuity Fund which, as the name implies, is a fund raised annually for distribution among the office, house and kitchen staff and the outside employees. In all probability this custom dated from the beginning of the Club although very little has been found in the records regarding it. For many years the "personal touch" method was in vogue and many will recall the highly successful role played by Mr. Avis when for several seasons he so kindly took over

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this undesirable job. For a number of years past, however, the responsibility has been placed upon the guests by means of a bulletin board subscription list and the amounts there subscribed have been added to their bills.

This story of the financial problems of the Club and how they were solved, incomplete as it may be, would be still more so, were reference not made, in appreciation, to Joseph Lahey, who served as Treasurer from 1908 to 1913, and to his brother, Richard Lahey, who acted in a like capacity from 1918 to 1922. Both of these men devoted themselves unstintedly to the Treasurer's work, even, in the case of the former, to the extent of checking all deeds and surveys of Club lands.

It but remains to state that while the increase in value of the Club property over these past fifty years represents to a moderate extent an increase in acreage, yet to a much greater degree it represents improvements of the property, making for the comfort and enjoyment of its members, and, definitely, the more altruistic purposes for which the Club exists, namely, the propagation and protection of fish and game. The Club has never been conducted for profit and no dividends to stockholders have at any time been contemplated.

IX

IMPROVEMENT OF GROUNDS

THE grounds of the Association, even within the so-called enclosure, for several years after the original Club House was built, must have presented a rather wild and uncultivated appearance. Much clearing away of trees within the enclosure had been accomplished, an orchard had early been planted, and a vegetable garden laid out. But the cows still grazed, not only in a pasture for which lots eight and nine had been set aside, but frequently they were to be seen on the slope in front of the Club House and the grass there was allowed to grow quite undisturbed most of the time. It was not until in June, 1901, that the first horse lawn mower was suggested and in the record to this effect is an order that the grass in front of the Club House be cut at once. This peremptory demand naturally leads to the conclusion that what is now our beautiful lawn and golf fairway must have looked in those days considerably like a hay field.

There were, of course, the attractive stone walls and gate posts to give a partial park-like appearance and define the enclosure and there were also from the very earliest days the trails or paths leading to the lakes. A flower garden was laid out in front of the

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porte-cochère about 1900 and was a very attractive feature for many years, until the depredations of the deer made its continuance out of the question.

For a great many years there was a decided farm atmosphere to the west of the Club House where were the barns, black-smith shop, ice house and wagon shed; and the horses, cows, pigs and chickens. Milk, fresh from the cow, was a distinct drawing card in the early days for the mothers of young children, and this accounts for the cows. The pigs were something of an asset to the Club from time to time and as late as February, 1916, there is, in the Directors' minutes, the following: "Reported that the pigs had been sold, netting nearly \$200.00." An item, dated October 24th, 1890, speaks loudly of farm activities as follows: "The Clerk was directed to notify Mr. Dexter to trade off the oxen for a young yoke or to sell them. Also to sell the chickens and the lame horse." The Mr. Dexter here referred to was the assistant superintendent at that time and the uncle of our present Mr. Frank Dexter. From the above one can readily believe that the instinct to trade is an inherited characteristic. The cows went their way about 1912 but the chickens and pigs stayed along with us until three or four years ago. The horses are as yet a necessary part of our equipment although much of the work for which they were formerly used is now accomplished by the motor.

To go back to the pigs—and this should not be particularly unpleasant as it is a return only in mem-



OXCART. "ROUND CORILLA" IN THE DISTANCE



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ory—when the pig sty was moved out beyond the orchard, and very properly too, a famous institution grew up among the children and continued for over a decade. This was the early morning ride on the stone boat with “Cooney,” when he went to feed the pigs. It was no uncommon thing, if one’s sleeping rooms happened to be on the west side of the house, to be awakened just after dawn by shrill cries, and on looking out, see several youngsters streaking it across the slope leading down to the barns. Off they would go, half a dozen of them hanging on to Cooney as the boat thumped and scraped along. Most of these adventurers are now young men and women, some themselves now parents; but there is no doubt that the recollection of these stone-boat rides brings back to them very pleasant memories.

In considering the improvements to the grounds an attempt has been made to group like procedures as nearly as possible rather than to arrange them according to a sequence of dates. As in our building transactions, so in our landscaping, the Club has always been fortunate in having among its own members several individuals who not only possessed ability and experience, but who have cheerfully given of their time and efforts to improve our grounds; and actual recourse to outside help in this direction has never been made although it was suggested at one time as will later appear.

Alfred B. Ogden, a surveyor by profession, and one of the charter members of the Club, was its first

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Landscape Engineer, formally officiating as such from 1890 to 1892, although from the very beginning of the Club he had more or less unofficially acted in that capacity. He, it was, who, in the latter part of the year 1884, made the first map of the Club property and adjacent country, a drawing of which appears in the first Club prospectus printed in 1885. Some time prior to September, 1886, Mr. Ogden had also prepared and presented to the Club, a map designed for the guidance of the Executive Committee in allotting plots of ground for the erection of cottages, and again in March, 1889, a new Ogden map of cottage sites was adopted. In May, 1888, a new survey having been made by Mr. Ogden, another map of the entire Club lands, including the recently acquired Wolf Lake property, was presented by him to the Club and formally adopted, and in September, 1890, it was ordered to be certified as a permanent map and filed in the County Clerk's office and in the archives of the Association.

On November 20th, 1906, a map showing the interior Club grounds and the building lots and cottages, dated October 1st, 1906, made by Joseph Van Vleck, the Landscape Engineer, was approved and adopted and ordered filed in the archives of the Club. Again on November 16th, 1909, Charles S. Gregor was chosen a Committee of one to prepare a map of the Club property.

In January, 1892, the Landscape Engineer, Mr. Ogden, was requested to investigate and determine

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how the grounds around the Club House might be improved by the laying out of walks and the planting of ornamental trees and shrubs. In May of the following year, he reported his purpose to engage an expert to visit the Club grounds and lay out some definite scheme for future improvements looking towards beautifying the place systematically, and in harmony with some general design. There appears no record, however, indicating that this plan was ever carried out.

The path leading to Mount Ogden has been well trod for many years, and, in all probability, this was laid out very early in the Club's existence. The popularity of this preeminent vantage point for an extensive view of the surrounding country or to watch the sunsets, has not waned with the passing years. Its appreciation in the early days is learned from a record dated September 30th, 1890, giving permission to Mr. Ogden and other members to erect a tower on Mount Ogden, to be paid for by private subscriptions, the work to commence when two-thirds of the cost of the tower had been pledged. These good intentions failed to materialize, apparently, as no later mention of this plan has been found. About this same time the Landscape Engineer was directed to lay out the path, still maintained, leading from the Club House to Mr. Gregor's cottage.

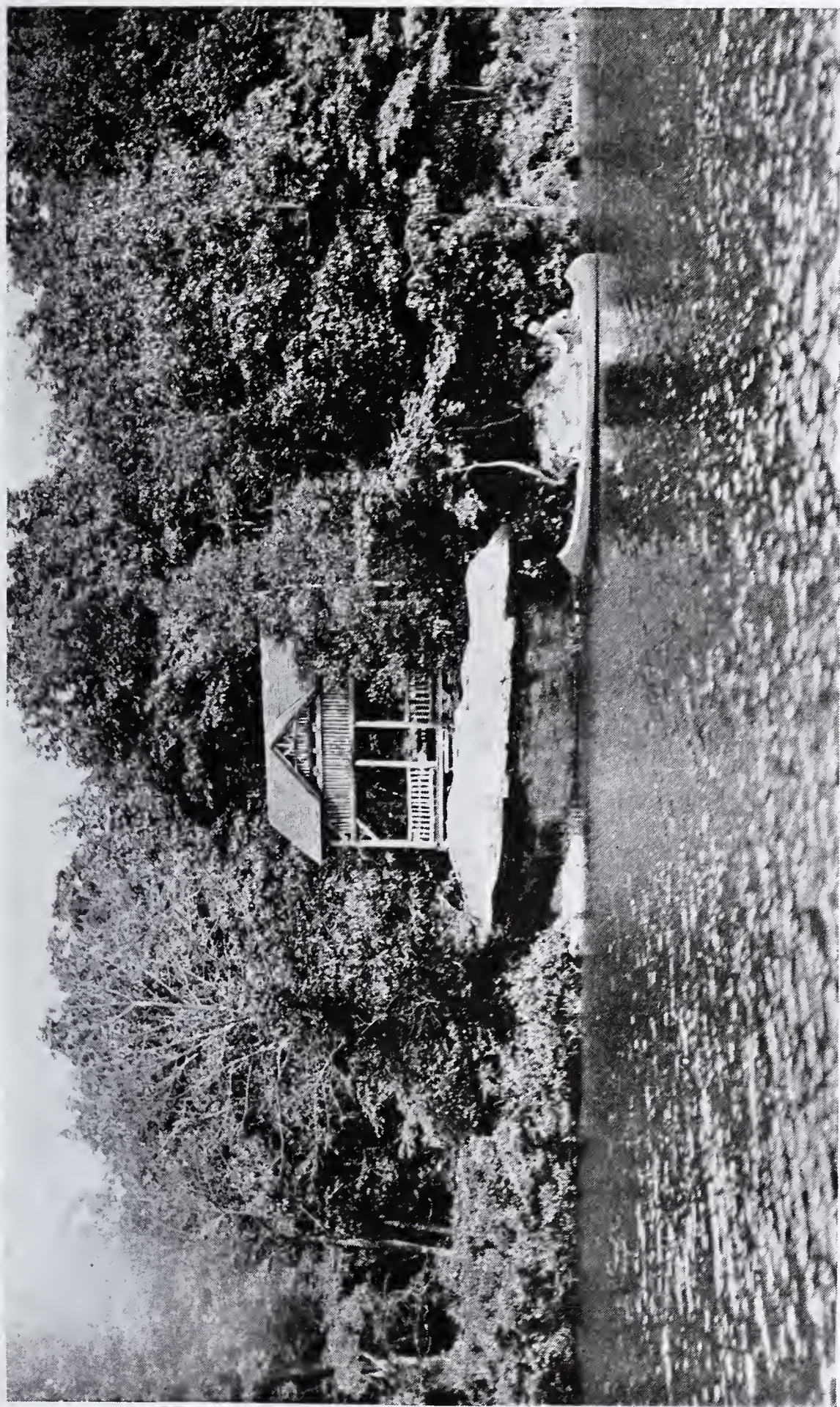
The stone walk, so long popularly known as "Madison Avenue," was laid out some time prior to

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1890 and evidently extended at first from the north end of the original Club House to the entrance gate at the road. The erection of the north wing shortened the "Avenue" by about fifty feet, but it is still long enough to serve as an after-supper promenade and continues to enjoy the favor of the populace.

The path from the Club House to Wolf Lake was made about the same time. This at first followed the line of the road leading to the lake and the present path was groved out by Joe Van Vleck in 1894. Within the enclosure, a mountain ash, planted by Benjamin A. Williams, formerly stood close beside the path near the Club House, but this and another tree of the same variety, alongside the west porch, were cut down a few years ago. The row of maples, bordering a lower portion of the path toward the gate of the enclosure, was set out many years later, and the present generation is reaping the benefits in the welcome shade afforded in this steepest part of the climb from the lake. The winding and beautiful path called Wolf Ramble, on the ridge to the north of the Club House, was made prior to 1892 and a summer house erected at its terminus.

The loop in front of the Club House was laid out by Joe Van Vleck, in the fall of 1904 and completed the following summer. In the early days, the road through the main gates approaching the Club House continued straight on toward the barn, crossing our present lawn about where the practice putting green



WOLF LAKE SUMMER HOUSE



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now is and continuing across the south end of the present tennis courts.

George N. Williams, Sr., succeeded Mr. Ogden as Landscape Engineer, his term of office covering the years from 1893 to 1896 inclusive. A summer house had been erected prior to 1894, at the far side of the north end of Big Corilla, and in 1894, Joseph Van Vleck, Sr., erected the one which, until a year or two ago, stood on the high rock on the south shore of Wolf Lake. Benjamin A. Williams built the summer house at Fisherman's Landing in 1911 and Mrs. John Livingston, in 1913, built the one which stood for so many years on Mount Ogden. The last three houses mentioned have lately been rebuilt by the Club.

In November, 1896, the then Joseph Van Vleck, Jr., was elected Landscape Engineer, serving from 1897 to 1907, from 1911 to 1924 and again from 1926 to the present time; the intervals between these various terms of office having been filled by Herbert D. Brown and Harold C. Williams. During Mr. Van Vleck's régime an immense amount of excellent work has been done; some of the outstanding improvements being the following: In February, 1897, the site of the vegetable garden, which at that time was within the enclosure between the orchard and the site of the maids' dormitory, was changed to a location outside the main gates, in the meadow where the third and fourth present golf fairways parallel each other and about half way between the entrance

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road and the north cliff. Here the garden remained until the building of the golf course was begun, when it was again removed to the west of the Club House, and still later, further south and west of the MacGregor cottage. In September, 1898, Mr. Van Vleck produced a large plan for laying out the enclosed ground surrounding the Club House.

A survey made in 1910 showed some very heavy grades on the Mast Hope Road and the question of rebuilding a part of this road came up for discussion in April and May of that year. In the following October, it was decided to build a new section of road toward Mast Hope, east of the "Old Farm," so as to eliminate the steep hills, at a cost not to exceed \$400.00; and in February, 1911, this new road was reported as completed.

There were three stretches of new road built, as follows:

1. Across Miss Selden's property where it leaves the valley and winds up the side hill for about a mile. This stretch cut out the old hill of twenty-five per cent grade. For the right of way over Miss Selden's property, the Club gave her the right to use the road during her lifetime.
2. Where the old road started down the hill, a second section was constructed following up the side hill over the bridge about three-quarters of a mile, thus cutting out another hill, nearly as steep.

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3. After crossing the outlet of Forest Lake, the new road branched to the left, following the contour of the hill and added enough distance to cut out a third steep pitch.

By making these changes in the road the three steepest hills of approximately twenty-five per cent grade were more than cut in half. This improvement resulted in doubling the possible load which might be carried during the era of the horse-drawn vehicles. The older members may remember how they walked the steep pitches to relieve the heavy loads.

The cost of approximately two miles of new road was \$1,400.00, which, while far exceeding the original estimate, was yet very reasonable when the valuable results of the change are considered. In addition, the woods were groved out at curves along the entire road to Mast Hope to afford a clear view of the road at these points and many miles of fire paths were cut. In the fall of 1910, places had been dug within the Club enclosure for the planting of about 200 trees in the spring. On May 16th, 1911, this planting was reported as accomplished.

In 1927, at the request and expense of Mr. De Bost two stone pillars were built at the entrance of the Club enclosure near the barn, the wall was repaired and the roadway was graded and widened. This improvement adds greatly to the general appearance and to the safety and convenience of all the members of the Club.

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In 1928, the old wagon shed and chicken house were demolished, and on the site of the shed a new garage was erected containing space for eleven cars. The road leading to the garage and the plaza in front of it were graded and put in good condition.

In 1929, the old wood road which connects with the Hawley Road near the log cabin was improved so that it compares favorably with the other roads around the Club House, with the result that it is used as a tradesmen's entrance and diverts much traffic from the road which runs through the golf course.

In 1930, considerable work was done at Wolf Lake in improving the road leading to the lake and grading for a parking space. A new road was also laid out running off Mount Ogden knoll, encircling the westerly side of Mount Ogden and connecting with the existing roadway behind Mr. De Bost's property, and the woods adjacent to the road were groved. It was decided that maps be prepared respecting the lay-out of proposed cottage sites on this tract. During this year a new flag pole was erected in front of the porte-cochère, a gift to the Club from John A. Miller. The flag pole which, prior to this time, had stood for so many years near the northeast corner of the Club House, was a gift to the Club of Mrs. William A. Avis in 1906. It seems fitting here to observe that in October, 1902, Mrs. O. F. Linabury, Mrs. Carpenter and Mrs. Jen-

IMPROVEMENT OF GROUNDS

nings of Mount Vernon, presented to The Forest Lake Association a handsome American flag.

To conclude the story of improvements to our grounds we must go back to 1916, when there was consummated what undoubtedly was the greatest improvement of all—the construction of a golf course, which is described in detail in another chapter. It is an undeniable fact that the effectiveness and beauty of the Club House setting, as it is now approached through our fairways, has been greatly enhanced by this improvement.

X

ACREAGE

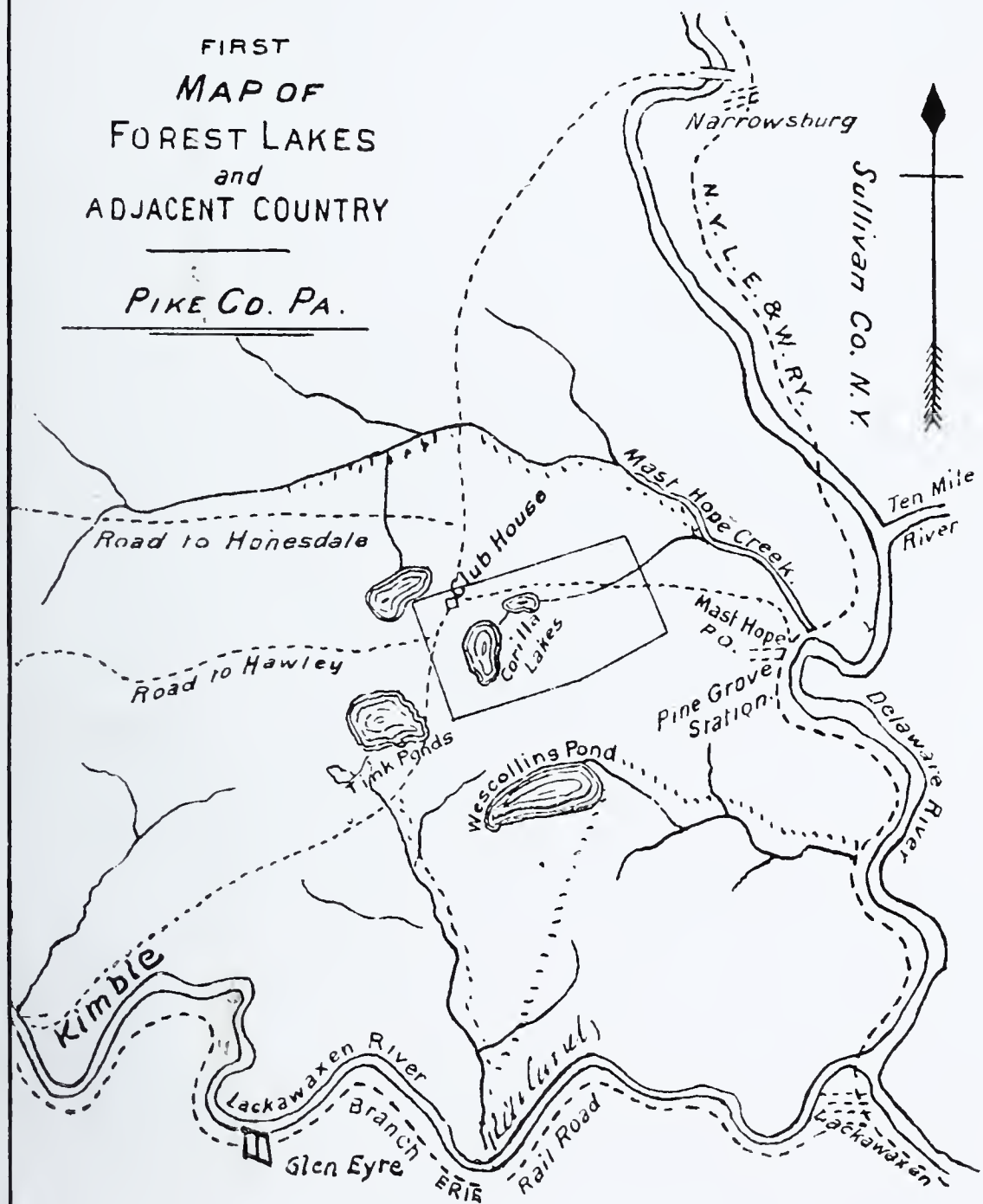
THE purchase of land by the Club during its fifty years of existence may be roughly divided into two periods—the first ten years covering the first four purchases and the last ten the remaining five acquisitions.

The first purchase of about 1,500 acres included tract 31 containing 489 acres, tract 37 containing 457 acres, tract 30 containing 440 acres and one-fourth of tract 38 representing about 109 acres.

Before any other purchase of land was made, a transaction took place that is of interest as bearing on the Club's holdings. On October 30th, 1885, at a Directors' meeting the Treasurer reported that a memorandum had been received from the Treasurer of Pike County claiming indebtedness of the Association for taxes, etc. (including those of 1885 and school tax of 1886) on 1,733 acres, part of which, about 250 acres, was not the property of the Association. This tax amounted to \$1,215.59. A petition was sent to the Commissioners of Pike County, asking a reduction of the amount and proposing a basis for settlement. Finally, in January, 1886, a settlement was made for the full amount and a clear title to the 200 odd extra acres obtained; so that the

FIRST
MAP OF
FOREST LAKES
and
ADJACENT COUNTRY

PIKE CO. PA.



FIRST MAP OF THE CLUB PROPERTY. 1884

ACREAGE

area of the Association's land then amounted to approximately 1,733 acres.

The second purchase was of the remaining three-fourths of tract 38 containing 330 acres, and while it was not actually deeded to the Club until December, 1887, which was subsequent to the third purchase, it was nevertheless recorded as the second purchase because as far back as 1885 there was some question respecting ownership by the Association, as is explained in the following paragraph.

In December, 1884, it was reported that trespassers had cut valuable timber on the lands of the Association; and at this time a map was shown of the Association grounds which had been compiled by Alfred B. Ogden from a survey made shortly before. This was the first map made of the Club's property. The matter of the trespassers was discussed in relation to the question of a disputed boundary line between land owned by a Mr. Borchers and the land of the Association, and the matter was referred for settlement to the Executive Committee. Mr. Borchers was said to have been responsible for the cutting of the timber on a part of tract 38, which was claimed as land belonging to the Association, and on January 30th, 1885, it was noted in the minutes that Mr. Borchers had offered to release his interest in tract 38 if permitted to remove the cut timber. It was decided that settlement should be made on the basis of Borchers conveying a strip of land adjoining the Association grounds so as to give the

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

Association the stream running partly in tract 38 and his paying a counsel fee of \$200.00 and relinquishing the timber. In February, 1885, it was reported that Mr. Borchers was hauling the cut logs off the Association lands. Legal proceedings were advised and the superintendent notified to forbid the removal of the logs. Proceedings were accordingly taken against Borchers, and some time later, a settlement was made giving a clear title to tract 38 and the control of the stream as above noted. The stream referred to was undoubtedly the outlet of Forest Lake now known as the Forest Lake Brook and which runs into Mast Hope Brook. The above-mentioned settlement was consummated by the President, Dr. Hadden, purchasing the balance of this tract for \$162.00. This price might be considered very cheap, but is readily explained when it is recalled that considerable valuable timber had already been cut and removed.

The third purchase was called the first Wolf Pond purchase. Wolf Lake, or, as it was then called, Wolf Pond, though freely used by the Association members, was still not a part of its property, and for several reasons it was thought desirable to secure complete control. As has been inferred, this property was acquired in two purchases. The first one included the whole of tract 27 containing 421 acres and 50 acres of tract 32. A reference to the map will show that this took in practically all of the lake with the exception of a narrow strip along the west shore.

ACREAGE

The question of this purchase first came up at a Directors' meeting on March 16th, 1887, and after a general discussion the officers of the Association were directed to purchase the property for an amount not to exceed \$900.00.

A part of the land which the Association desired to purchase belonged to George H. Rowlands and the deal was consummated through Mr. Van Etten who was at the same time counsel for the Association and for Mr. Rowlands. The property is said to have been conveyed at first to a William S. Brown and later transferred by him to the Association because of the probable prohibitive price that would very likely have been demanded if it had become known that the Association itself was directly interested in the purchase. To provide funds for this undertaking the following gentlemen each agreed to take an additional share of the stock of the Association at its par value of \$100.00: Dr. Alexander Hadden, John Davidson, William Johnson, Charles R. Gregor, Robert Betty, Alfred B. Ogden, Alfred B. Scott, William A. Avis and Francis McMulkin. The deeds of the "Wolf Pond" property were transferred from the President, as Trustee, to the Association on March 22nd, 1887.

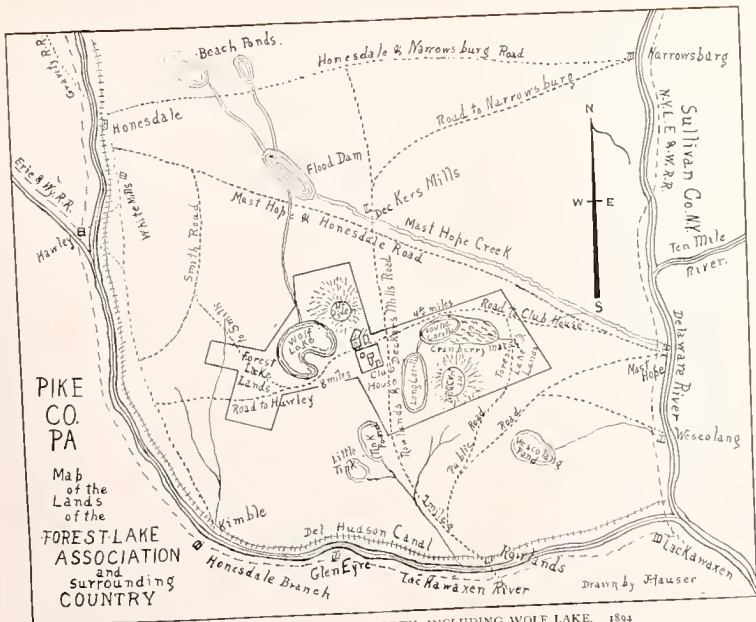
To turn for a moment from buying to selling, it is of interest to note that on this same date, the President reported that he had received an offer to buy the "Old Farm" on the grounds of the Association (about 100 acres) and authorization was given

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

to negotiate for the sale of this property, reserving the road through the same to the Association. Discussion had taken place some time before this as to what to do with the farm—whether to lease it or to hire a market gardener to cultivate it. However, the sale did not materialize and the farm is still a part of the Club property.

As most of our members know, this old abandoned farm lies on either side of the Mast Hope Road about two miles from the Club House, and, until a few years ago, some evidence to mark the site of the house that formerly stood on that spot still remained in the form of a small section of crumbling stone foundation. In 1895, the old barn on this property was removed and placed near the Club House barn where it was used for the storage of hay for several years. About a year ago this old building, still in a good state of preservation, was made over into a very comfortable men's dormitory.

There was still the western shore of Wolf Pond which was not Club property and it seemed especially desirable that it be secured for the following reasons: All of our Club members are familiar with the dock and summer house at the far end of Wolf Lake called "Fisherman's Landing," but few know the origin of the name. The "Fisherman" was one Abe Lovelace who lived at Hawley, but who had built a shack at this particular location on Wolf Lake where he fished during the summers, mostly with set lines, and apparently supported himself comfort-



LATER MAP OF THE CLUB PROPERTY, INCLUDING WOLF LAKE. 1894



ACREAGE

ably by the sale of his catch. He is said to have augmented his income by the sale of rattlesnake skins to the women of the Club for wall decorations, and to have furnished entertainment on occasion to boating and fishing parties by the music of his banjo and guitar. The destruction of the rattlesnakes, desirable as that was, apparently did not, in the minds of the Directors, compensate for the tremendous damage to the fishing, as besides "Abe" many others were indulging themselves generously in the gentle art.

The fourth purchase or the second Wolf Pond purchase, was the result of the efforts of the Club, for the above reasons, to secure complete control of Wolf. The purchase consisted of 540 acres including the whole of tract 178, known as the Samuel Wigton tract, which secured the lake shore, together with parts of tracts 1 and 2 lying to the south and west, which were the Ramsey and Condell tracts, respectively. It was made through a syndicate of Club members, who received notes of the Association without interest which were payable in four years from May 19th, 1891.

Summing up the first four purchases, including the 200 odd acres acquired by the tax settlement above referred to, there were, up to the beginning of 1893, about 3,074 acres of land belonging to the Club. There was then an interval of nearly thirty years during which no further purchase of land was made.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

The fifth purchase, the deed of which was dated January 24th, 1920 (another date, October 12th, 1921, is also found in the records), was of the John Jennings tract 78^{2d}, consisting of 422 acres lying in the vicinity of Wolf Lake outlet. A reference to the map will show this tract as situated west of tract 178 and north of part of tract 1. This land was purchased by contributions from thirty members, and to Fred M. Johnson, Frank E. Davidson, Charles W. Campbell, Charles K. Thomas and William L. De Bost, is due the credit for carrying to completion this important addition to the Club's property.

The sixth purchase on December 1st, 1922, was of the Case property, designated as tract 28 and consisting of about 412 acres. This tract lies north of part of tracts 31 and 30 and northeast of tract 27. In more easily understood terms, it lies northeast of Mount Ogden and on both sides of the Casetown Road.

The seventh purchase was of a triangular tract of land of about 30 acres, called the "Kimble Triangle," two sides of which coincide with parts of the boundaries of the Club's holdings on tract 32 and tract 1. One apex of the triangle runs to within a few feet of the southwestern shore of Wolf Lake and it was to protect the lake property that the purchase was made. This land was bought on October 29th, 1924.

The eighth purchase was of a tract of land irregularly triangular in outline, containing about 505

ACREAGE

acres and lying almost due north of tracts 27 and 28. For the reader to visualize this parcel of land more clearly, it may be stated that it covers a stretch of water on Rattlesnake Creek beginning somewhat above the bridge at Decker's Mills and extending along the creek for a few hundred feet above Flood Dam. In a general northerly direction it extends over to Beach Lake outlet along which it runs on one bank for perhaps one thousand feet. A small part of this tract, its northern apex, lies in Wayne County. As far back as 1921, the advisability of purchasing this land was discussed and about a year later subscriptions were received from twenty-two members, amounting to \$2,400.00. It was proposed to form a Holding Company to purchase the land and to hold it subject to the Club taking it over at a later period. It was not until sometime in 1924, that a company called the Forest Brook Holding Company, was formed, the land in question purchased and the title obtained. The officers of this company were Joseph M. Merrill, President, John A. Miller, Secretary, and William L. De Bost, Treasurer. On May 6th, 1925, this company transferred its purchase, as a gift, to The Forest Lake Club.

The ninth purchase, and the last one made up to the present time, was known as the Dibble property. There were two plots of ground between the property purchased by the Holding Company and that owned by The Forest Lake Club. One was a plot of 42 acres, formerly owned by Warren Case

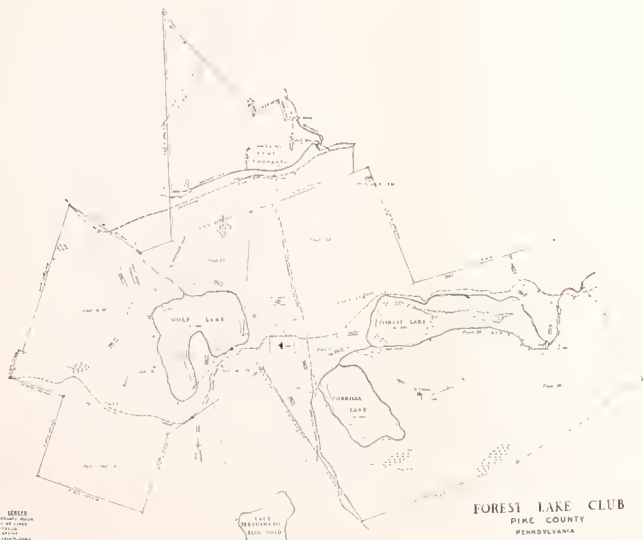
HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

and later transferred to John B. Kemp. The second was a plot of approximately 96 acres, the Dibble property, situated east of the Casetown Road and south by east of the Kemp tract. This was bought by the Club September 30th, 1925, constituting thereby a connecting link between the Holding Company's purchase and the land already owned by the Club.

The following is a summary of the approximate acreage of The Forest Lake Club:

<i>Purchases:</i>	<i>Acres</i>
1	1,500
2	563
3	471
4	540
5	422
6	412
7	30
8	505
9	96
<hr/>	
Total	4,539

In October, 1914, G. Elliot Brown, then an associate member of the Club, and occupying a cottage outside the Club grounds at Lake Teedyuscong, otherwise known as "Tink Pond," offered to exchange a plot of land about 50 feet wide running from the Club property to this lake, for a strip of



MAP OF PRESENT CLUB PROPERTY



ACREAGE

the Club property of the same size adjoining his land and fronting on the Rowlands Road. The proposition was accepted by the Board, the exchange authorized, and the matter consummated in May, 1916. This added no territory to the Club acreage but gave direct access, on Club property, to Lake Teedyuscong.

XI

TRANSPORTATION

THIS subject seems to deserve a brief chapter. Fifty years ago the Club was much farther from New York in point of time than at present.

The railroad journey was slow and decidedly arduous. There were long waits at Turners (now, Hariman) and again at Port Jervis and Lackawaxen; and refreshment, liquidly speaking, not only could be obtained at these ports of call, but was obtained; in fact, it was practically mandatory; for when Mast Hope or Rowlands was at last reached, there was still over an hour's travel by horse stage. In the very early days, the enthusiastic fishermen and hunters often had to walk from the station up to Camp Williamson, but as soon as the Club House and barns were built, arrangements were made to meet the guests; and the first reference to this plan is found in a record under the date of July 15th, 1885, as follows: "Resolved that a stage be sent on each day (Sunday excepted) to the depot, to connect with the 1:22 P.M. train from June 1 to October 1." This conveyance was evidently of the buckboard or farm wagon type capable of carrying perhaps half a dozen passengers, and so, in February, 1887, the Chairman



TWELVE PASSENGER STAGE

TRANSPORTATION

of the Executive Committee was authorized to procure for the use of the Association a suitable depot wagon—large enough to carry about twelve persons—with baggage. The wagon was bought and shipped to the Club House early in April of the same year. About this time there seemed to be better and more frequent train service by way of Rowlands and in July of this year (1887) the road from the Club House to Tink Pond was ordered repaired for the greater convenience of the guests.

In January, 1888, a new wagon house was considered and plans were presented and approved for building a shed 105 x 16 feet—a combined wagon house and workshop, at a proposed cost not exceeding \$250.00. This was on the site of our present garage.

In March, 1888, at a Board meeting, the President reported that he had arranged with the Erie Railroad to sell to the Association, round trip tickets to the Club House at \$5.50 each and in consideration of the Association furnishing transportation to and from the station, a rebate of \$2.00 on each ticket was to be allowed. In February, 1896, a letter was received from the General Passenger Agent of the Erie Railroad, discontinuing the rail and stage tickets. An excursion rate of \$5.30 was offered, also a ten-trip ticket for \$20.00 and a fifty-trip ticket for \$88.75; but, under protest, this order was rescinded and the prior arrangement put in force.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

Referring back to 1888 the rates for transportation at this time were as follows:

To and from Mast Hope

May 30th to September 15th..	\$.50 per person
September 15th to May 30th..	1.00 per person
To Lackawaxen	3.00 per person
Narrowsburg	3.00 per person
Hawley	2.50 per person
Rowlands	2.00 per person

The Mast Hope rate was raised to 75¢ the following year and 50¢ charged for the transportation of a trunk each way and in 1891 the stage fare was again increased to \$1.00.

In May, 1893, arrangements were made by the Club to provide a team of horses and a suitable conveyance to hire to the guests the coming summer and this may have originated the hay rides to West-colang and the trips to the Gravity Road that were so often enjoyed by the young people in the early part of the "Mauve Decade." About this time the bicycle era was in full swing and considerable pedaling, and not always soft pedaling at that, went on at Forest Lake. Bicycle meets were the last word, though no record has been found of trips to the top of Mount Hadden or around Wolf Lake. So things went joggingly along for several years.

Following the bicycle epoch the first automobiles began to appear at the Club and, slowly at first, but

TRANSPORTATION

with increasing rapidity came the real horseless age. The honor of having driven the first motor car to The Forest Lake Club belongs to George Mulligan and Raymond Terry. This car, which belonged to Mr. Terry, was a runabout of the vintage of about 1900. Two days were consumed in making the trip and the arrival at the Club was greeted by the lighting of red fires and the cheers of half the countryside. About a year later, Mr. Mulligan, in his Winton, again essayed the journey, accompanied on this occasion by three other intrepid adventurers, Elmer Gregor, James Frame, Jr., and Harold Williams, who rendered able assistance, chiefly in repairing and changing tires. A complete halt for twenty-four hours, when a new shoe became absolutely essential, was forced upon them at a hamlet somewhere between Middletown and Port Jervis, that answered, when called, to the more or less euphonious name of Bullville. Here Mr. Mulligan and Mr. Frame remained to guard the car during the night while the two other pioneers "hopped" a freight back to Middletown to get the tire. A violent thunder storm came up, thoroughly drenching the two guardians, the while Messrs. Gregor and Williams were enjoying at least some of the creature comforts at Middletown. However, all were united again the next morning, the new shoe put on, the journey continued, and, to complete the story, they arrived at the Club the fourth day out of New York, having

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

negotiated the last ten miles on three ragged tires and a rim. This misadventure, far from discouraging other attempts, seemed to stimulate the hardy ones and close upon the heels, or to be more exact, the wheels of George Mulligan's car, came Joseph Van Vleck, in his White Steamer, which "choo-chooed" up from the vicinity of New York via the Hawk's Nest Road in 10 hours, having beaten the previous record by 3 days and 14 hours. Joe Van Vleck carried, besides his family, an axe, compass, and two long planks to make it possible to pass over the "thank you mams."

From then on we moved faster and about 1906 or 1907 the horse-drawn vehicle was permanently displaced by the automobile as a means of guest transportation between the Club House and the station. The first car owned and used by the Club was a Stoddard Dayton, which was purchased from Mr. Weston. In November, 1909, the President was authorized to enter into a contract with a company to be formed to carry passengers to and from Mast Hope Station, the Club to receive free transportation for its supplies in exchange for the chauffeur's board. This company, made up of Club members, was formed because the Club itself was disinclined to assume responsibility for the new method of travel. This arrangement went on during the seasons of 1910 and 1911 but at a loss to the Transportation Company, and in November, 1911, a committee was



SPIKE TEAM EN ROUTE



HAWK'S NEST ROAD

TRANSPORTATION

appointed consisting of Joseph Lahey and Joseph Van Vleck, to devise a plan to reimburse the company for its losses and adjust the Club indebtedness. The committee made its report on May 21st, 1912, and on the same date the Executive Committee was authorized to purchase from the Club Transportation Company the automobiles and other tangible assets for the sum of \$1,000.00 to be paid on or before September 15th, 1912.

About a year and a half later the Executive Committee was authorized to sell the old automobile, the amount received to be applied to the purchase of new cars at a total cost not to exceed \$1,600.00. Accordingly, in May, 1914, a new Ford touring car and Ford truck were bought at a cost of \$450.00 and \$1,070.00 respectively. It should here be remarked that during Mr. Weston's term as President he was always more than generous in tendering the use of his own car for carrying passengers between the Club and Mast Hope, whenever the traffic was unusually heavy or the Club car hors de combat as not infrequently was the case.

In 1922 some revision of the transportation rates was made, including a ruling as to meeting guests, which read as follows: "If owner meets guest or member in his own car, a charge is to be made as if the said guest or member had been met by the Club car. If owner of car or one of his immediate family is met by owner's car, no charge is to be made."

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

The revised charges were as follows:

To Tink Pond—one way	\$.75
Special rates for parties—two or more50 each
Lackawaxen	3.00
Two or more	2.00 each
Hawley (Round trip not to exceed four hours) four persons	5.00
Each additional person	1.25
Honesdale (Round trip not to exceed four hours)	6.00
Trunks transported from station25 each

In the earlier years, just after the coming of the automobile, the roads to the Club, after one reached Port Jervis or Milford were anything but perfect highways. Traveling from New York, a favorite route and one used for many years was through Tuxedo and Goshen to Port Jervis. From there, one followed the Delaware river on the famous Hawk's Nest Road to Barryville; thence to Lackawaxen, crossing the river into Pennsylvania at that point; from there, the route lay along the Lackawaxen river to Rowlands, part of the way on the tow path of the old Delaware and Hudson Canal, and thence to the Club. This journey totaled about one hundred and sixteen miles from Fort Lee Ferry and took between seven and eight hours; the thirty-four miles from Port Jervis on being the time-consuming factor. The well-named Hawk's Nest Road is built on

TRANSPORTATION

the steep side of a mountain; it is an exceedingly narrow road, with the mountain wall on its one side and on the other a sheer drop of hundreds of feet to the river below, with only a few places where two cars can pass, and one drew a long breath of relief when this part of the journey was over.

Another favorite route from New York, though considerably longer, was across northern New Jersey to Milford then through Lord's Valley to Hawley and so on to the Club. This covered about one hundred and thirty-eight miles. Later on, the motorists began to use the so-called short cut from Milford to Rosenkranz Corners—thence to Rowlands and the Club. This is the route most used at the present time. In 1911 Joseph Van Vleck presented to the Club an outline of eight automobile routes to and from the Club. This was gratefully accepted.

What a change has been wrought! The days have passed when one stopped en route to enjoy a picnic lunch. At present, the trip from New York to the Club averages but three and a half to four hours, and one arrives in time for either lunch or dinner. Perhaps this is an advantage; but one can look back on the other, more leisurely days, with a great deal of pleasure, even though there was always a large element of uncertainty at the start of the journey. Perhaps that is where lay the charm, after all. One never knew whether the horse power would be pulling or propelling the car at the finish and the main question regarding the tires was whether enough

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

blowout patches were at hand in case all four shoes decided they had been tortured enough.

And now we boast, and truly, that we travel to-day in incredibly greater comfort and quicker time; and yet, fifty years hence, when possibly some as yet unborn historian will be continuing the chronicles of The Forest Lake Club, he will laugh to think that it could ever have taken three hours to get there from New York when one can fly from one's roof in Manhattan to the landing field of the Club in thirty minutes flat.

XII

LAKES AND STREAMS

THE LAKES

WHEN the first purchase of property was made back in 1881, as referred to in one of the early chapters, there was included in the 1500 acres but two of our three lakes, namely: Big or Long Corilla, and Little or Round Corilla, the latter, our present Forest Lake. Wolf Lake, formerly called Wolf Pond, was, as stated, partially acquired in March, 1887, but was not wholly owned by the Club until 1891. All of these lakes are fed by springs which accounts for the purity of the water.

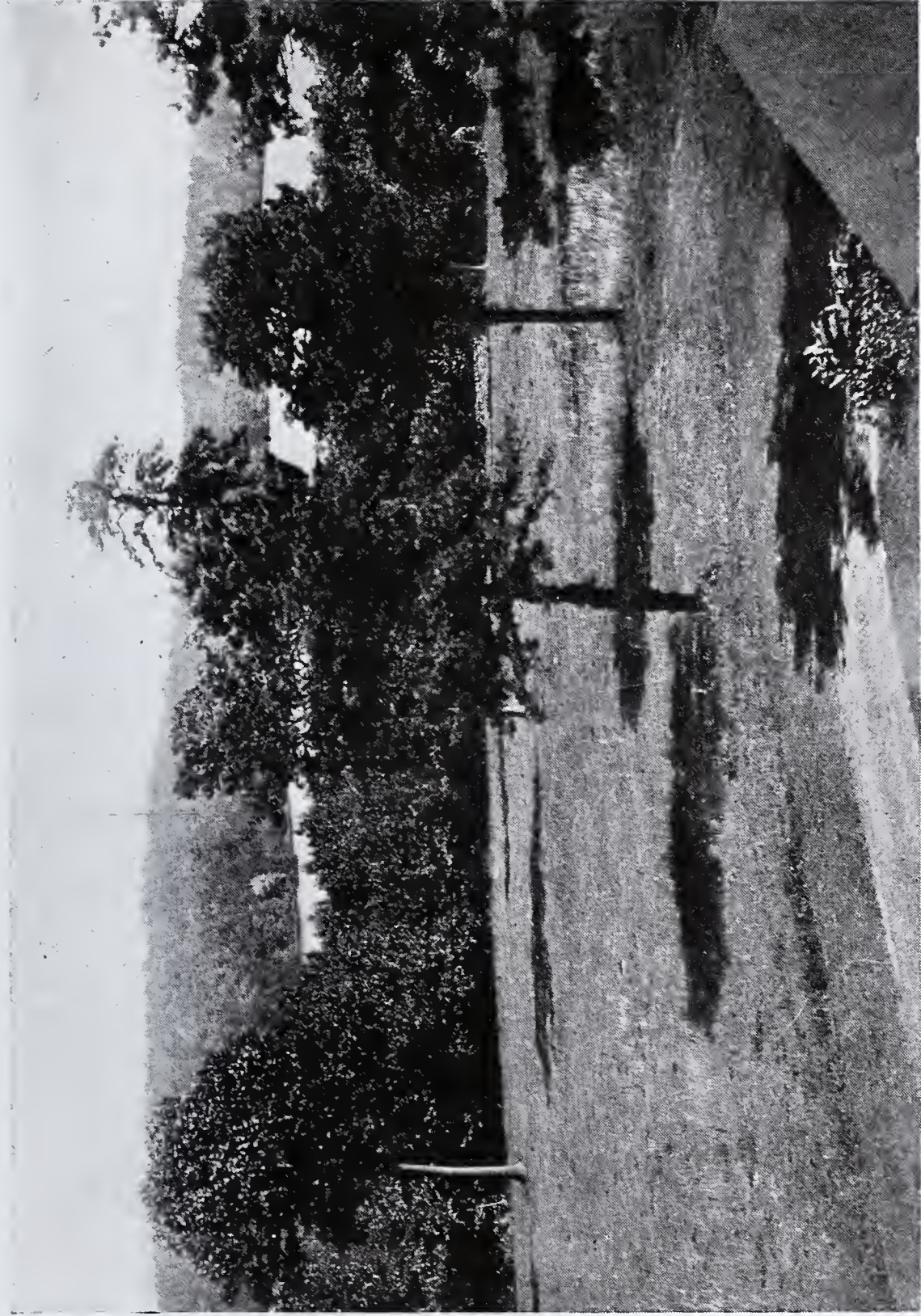
Big or Long Corilla, so called in the early days, but now simplified to Corilla, is a beautiful body of water about one mile long and one-half mile wide, lying to the east and south of the Club House site. Its long axis lies almost due north and south and the former additional appellation of "Long" quite describes it. In the early years it was apparently the more popular fishing ground both because of its being more easily reached from the Club House, and also because of its abundant supply of the gamey smallmouth bass. It will be recalled that it was at the north end of this lake that Camp Williamson, the first building

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

to be erected on the Club property, was situated.

Little Corilla, less accessible, was, however, by no means neglected, though for a number of years there was no direct path through the woods to this lake. The fishing enthusiast in his journey to the lake described almost a half circle before he reached his goal, tramping first to Big Corilla where he secured his bait, rowing thence across the north end of the lake to the opposite shore and from there continuing his walk to Little Corilla. Men used their legs in those days. What a contrast to the present. Now, they jump into the car, awaiting them under the portecochère, dash madly for a little way down the Mast Hope Road and within five or ten minutes are swapping lies in the fishing boat. They may stop for a minute or two to pick up some bait at the Club dock or they may carry it with them. Sometimes in the hip pocket. Both of these lakes were natural feeding grounds for the smallmouth bass; particularly, as before mentioned, Big Corilla. Pickerel and perch were also very abundant and especially so in the smaller lake.

Wolf Lake, lying almost due west from the Club House, is now the most easily reached of the three, and when it was finally included in the Club property, a good path to it having been laid out in April, 1888, it became very popular not only for fishing, but for canoeing and bathing as well. It is about three-quarters of a mile in length and over a half mile across at its widest part. At the end of the lake



BIG CORILLA LAKE

LAKES AND STREAMS

nearest the Club House, a shallow part with sandy bottom, which extends quite a way out, makes it safe even for the smallest children among the bathers, while at the same time there is depth enough about one hundred feet from shore for swimming and diving and the various other water sports. Lake bathing was not so popular forty years ago as it is now, and many of the baths taken in those early days were accidental and wholly involuntary. Until 1893, all premeditated lake bathing was indulged in at Corilla. In that year, however, Joe Van Vleck and Arthur Williams tried out Wolf as a bathing place and their enthusiasm over the new "swimmin' hole" inaugurated the change that made Wolf Lake the permanent choice.

The names Big Corilla, Little Corilla and Wolf Pond antedated the forming of the Club by probably a great many years. Nothing is known by record or legend of the naming of Wolf Lake, and the same statement applies to Corilla, although the name is undoubtedly of Indian origin.

There had apparently been some sort of a landing built at the north end of Big Corilla at the time that Camp Williamson was erected, and this evidently served very well for the first few years, or until the summer of 1886 when a more substantial dock took its place. Club boat houses and docks had, very early, probably from the time of the formation of the Club, been erected on Big Corilla and Little Corilla and furnished with Club boats; and by 1894

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

all three lakes were thus equipped, and sometime between 1886 and 1894 summer houses had been built on Big Corilla and Wolf, for it is recorded in October, 1894, that a new dock had been built at the Wolf Lake summer house and that the docks on all lakes as well as the summer house on Big Corilla had been repaired. The original summer house on Wolf was erected by Mr. Van Vleck, Sr., prior to 1894 and was in existence until 1930 when the present house was built by the Club.

In the fall of 1898, a new Club boat house was built on Little Corilla, and in April, 1901, there was referred to the Executive Committee the matter of building a new boat house on Wolf Lake for the Club fishing boats. It is interesting to note that in February, 1885, a rule was proposed allowing free use of the fishing boats, but, "No party shall use the boats more than the forenoon or afternoon of the same day." This proposed rule was defeated and it remained evidently a matter of free boats and, first come, first served.

The first members' boat houses were erected on Big Corilla and were built by Alfred B. Ogden and John Davidson, the exact dates being unknown. Mr. Ogden's original boat house is still in existence, and is now owned and used by Fred Johnson. The next application on record for the erection of boat houses on this lake was made in September, 1886, by Messrs. Black, Gregor, Wait, Scott and Betty. In May, 1888, permission was granted Dr. Daniel Lewis

LAKES AND STREAMS

to erect a cottage and boat house on a lot selected by him on the east bank of Big Corilla. This project never advanced farther than the building of a landing or dock which was known for some years afterwards as "Lewis' Landing." In June of this same year, James A. Frame and John Livingston were given the right to build a boat house on Corilla just north of the one previously erected by Mr. Ronaldson.

It was also at this time ordered that the shore of Big Corilla Lake be reserved for Association purposes, beginning 100 feet north of the boat house to be erected by Messrs. Frame and Livingston; and Charles R. Gregor was granted permission to remove his boat house from its then present site to a site next to the reservation as noted above. The next boat house built on Big Corilla was erected by Benjamin A. Williams in the fall of 1889. This was located near what was called the "Wash House," probably a part of old Camp Williamson, and in September of 1890, Messrs. Hadden and Shields were given permission to erect a double boat house next to Mr. Judson's on Big Corilla; but, as in May, 1891, another member, Mr. Ramsay, contemplated resigning from the Association he was allowed to transfer his boat house to Messrs. Hadden and Shields.

The first boat house on Wolf Lake was built by F. S. Wait and Alfred B. Scott in the summer of 1888, and in January, 1889, the shore of Wolf Lake, westwards of Wait and Scott's boat house, was set

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

apart for the erection of boat houses for members. The boat houses were to be at least twenty-five feet apart and to be located by the Executive Committee; and no permits were to be issued for boat houses on other parts of Wolf Lake. Mr. Ogden was at this time allowed to build a boat house on the site next west of Wait's boat house.

In the fall of 1889 there was discussed the matter of the construction of a path from Ogden's boat house to the "Camping Grounds" and putting some seats there. These "Camping Grounds" were evidently situated at the site of the large overhanging rock on which the Van Vleck summer house was erected. There can still be seen part of the old stone landing dock, and the seats mentioned, if the plan was carried out, were probably placed under the overhang of the rock. There is still some evidence also of the old path beyond the boat houses leading to this picnic ground, which closely hugged the shore of the lake. When the path around Wolf Lake, which was financed by the then Joseph Van Vleck, Sr., but was built by his son, was laid out, it was carried up on to the ledge and around the rock.

In the fall of 1891, Dr. Hadden, John Livingston and others were given the right to build boat houses on Wolf Lake, the timber and rough stones for foundations to be taken from the lands of the Club. These latter houses were of the community type and two such units were built some time between 1892 and 1897. In September, 1901, permission was



WOLF LAKE AND GROVE



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granted to Mr. Mulligan to build a boat house on Wolf Lake west of Mr. Gregor's. This was the last of the boat houses to be built on the south shore of Wolf Lake; and, it may be of interest to add, these houses, having undergone repairs and reconstruction from time to time, are still standing.

Some years elapsed before any other boat houses were erected on Wolf, but the idea of community boat houses had taken root and in 1909, the first of these to be built on the east shore of the lake was constructed about five hundred feet north of the junction of its southern and eastern boundaries. This house contained ten slips with a partition between each two, and one could purchase one or more slips as one chose. Most subscribers to this plan bought two slips, giving them a complete house to themselves, while in other cases single slips in the one house were owned by separate parties, who entertained the idea, sometimes perhaps rather lightly, that they would be congenial. Apparently, the plan usually worked out satisfactorily. The following year another house to the north of and duplicating the first was ordered erected and so it has gone on, until we now have four units on this side of the lake. The community boat house plan spread to Corilla Lake early in 1920, but was not executed until the summer of 1921 when several owners of individual boat houses on this lake consented to permit the Club to take down their houses to make way for the new

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building and agreed to purchase slips in the new house.

The Club boat house built on Forest Lake in 1898 and many times repaired was finally replaced by a new one in 1914. This stood the test of time until 1922 when a new community boat house was erected. In October of that year, William L. De Bost reported at an Executive Committee meeting that from the sale of boat slips in the new house and donations from certain of the members purchasing slips therein, he had sufficient funds to pay for two slips to be presented to the Club and that a plate with the names of the donors would be put on the Club boat house.

This about tells the story of the boat houses up to the present time. The community houses undoubtedly give to the shore lines a more orderly appearance and yet, the old individual houses, eight of which are still standing at Corilla and three at Wolf Lake, are genuinely picturesque, and serve well to link the past with the present and to stir the memories of some of our older members.

THE DAM

Forest Lake, formerly called Little or Round Corilla, and now the largest of our three lakes, presented a very different appearance fifty years ago when the Club was founded. The lake proper, at that time, comprised a small round pond which may

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be said to correspond to about one-half of the area of clear water now to be found at the head of the lake where the boat houses stand, and representing not more than one-fifth or one-sixth of the present size of the lake; while the remainder was marsh land, a portion of it a bog, on which for many years cranberries grew. This cranberry marsh was an especial pet of some of our earliest members and our records tell us that way back in the fall of 1882 the cranberry crop was reported frozen and the superintendent was directed to obtain and put in position at the outlet of the lake a sufficient number of boards to form a dam and flood the cranberry plants to a depth of two feet. This primitive dam, although it was erected for an entirely different purpose than the later one, deserves to be recorded as the first attempt of the Club to raise the waters of Forest Lake.

Apparently, for some years after this there was discussed the feasibility of draining and improving the marsh lands above referred to, and the question of damming the lake and increasing its area was not considered. For several years Joe Van Vleck had visualized Forest Lake as we see it today, and had urged building a dam to raise the lake. His view met with considerable opposition, however, and it was not until the fall of 1906 that the project of raising "Little Corilla" came up for serious discussion. In October, 1907, a committee was appointed to consider the matter, and authorized to construct

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a dam to flood the swamp lands. This Committee consisted of Benjamin A. Williams, William Archer and Joseph Van Vleck. The Committee voted two to one in favor of an earth dam without a concrete core. The work was immediately begun, and on February 18th, 1908, the dam was reported completed at a cost of \$940.80. In the minutes of a Board meeting on August 22nd, 1908, the Secretary was instructed to write to Harold C. Williams and Richard Lahey, thanking them in behalf of the Club for the valuable service rendered by them in the construction of the dam at Little Corilla; so it is to be assumed that these two gentlemen gave freely of their time and efforts in the accomplishment of the work. This does not, however, complete the story; for in the early fall of the same year the dam gave way, all the water ran out and the entire reconstruction of the dam was made necessary.

Again the work was taken up and went forward during the fall of 1908 and the spring, summer and fall of 1909. A trench was dug, twelve feet deep at its middle portion, and a concrete core, all the cracked stone prepared by using hand hammers, was erected throughout its length as is shown in the accompanying illustration. To show how well this work was done, there occurs under date of May, 1910, a notation in the records as follows: "Dam Committee reported, 'Dam tight.'" Tight refers to the dam. When the work was completed, not even the Roosevelt Dam had anything on the Forest Lake



BUILDING OF THE DAM



THE SPILLWAY OF THE COMPLETED DAM

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job, and to Richard Lahey and Joseph Van Vleck is due the credit for this skillful engineering feat. The entire cost of the dam when completed instead of being at the figures quoted above, actually amounted to \$3,359.99, and was paid for out of monies donated by twenty-three of the Club members.

In the enlarging of Forest Lake, the erection of the dam itself, while technically most important, was not, in fact, the hardest part of the task. That distinction belongs to the groving and clearing of four hundred acres of swamp. Trees, stumps and brush presented serious obstacles. But within a year or two following the completion of the dam enough was accomplished to give a considerable body of navigable water.

STOCKING THE LAKES

As natural fishing grounds our lakes have always been outstanding. Attractive and beautiful as they are, the fishing, after all, was the lodestone that in the early years drew people to the Club and, in fact, up to the present time, despite various other recreations and amusements, the still excellent fishing largely dominates the activities of a very considerable number of our members.

The economic law of supply and demand as applied to fishing, may be considered a trite observation, and yet it is one that must be kept continually

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in mind. Its importance fortunately was recognized from the very first year of our Club's existence and a committee for instituting and carrying on the work of the propagation of fish was one of the first to be formed. Such a committee, annually appointed, first known as the Committee on Fish, later called the Committee on Fish and Game, and at present the Fish, Game and Forestry Committee, has functioned without interruption for fifty years and the lakes as they are today speak eloquently of the good work accomplished.

The first committee was appointed by the President, Dr. Alexander Hadden, on August 7th, 1882, and was composed of William W. Ladd, Jr., Alfred B. Scott and Charles C. Whitlock. The duties of this committee were defined November 20th, 1882, as follows: "Resolved that the Committee on Fish shall have the care and oversight of fish in the waters of the Association including the propagation thereof." The change of name to that of "Committee on Fish and Game" is first noted in the minutes of the Board meeting of August 30th, 1883, and at that meeting a fourth member was added. In October, 1901, a committee of five was appointed, this number remaining up to 1905, when it was again dropped to three. In 1920, the committee became the "Fish, Game and Forestry Committee," which is its present title and its membership was again increased to five.

The first record of stocking the lakes is found

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under date of January 30th, 1885, as follows: "Dr. Hadden had been presented with about fifty carp taken out of Central Park Lake, and Mr. Betty, at Dr. Hadden's request had put half of these in the spring at the edge of the Little Corilla and the remainder had been liberated through a hole cut in the ice at some distance from the shore." No record is found of carp having ever been taken from the lakes, but tradition tells us that they were occasionally seen near shore for years afterwards.

In March, 1888, The Fish and Game Committee was authorized to arrange for restocking the Big and Little Corilla Lakes with bass. This plan was probably carried out, although no later record has been found regarding it. According to Goodrich's "History of Wayne County," the northern black bass was introduced into several large ponds in this section of the country, by A. W. McKown, sometime prior to 1880.

Apparently the fishing was not up to the standard on Wolf Lake in 1890, as there was an embargo put on bass and pickerel fishing during the summer of that year and fishing through the ice during the Club's closed season prohibited. In February, 1893, at a Directors' meeting, it was resolved ". . . that Mr. Gregor and Dr. Hadden be directed to see what can be done to stock Big Corilla (Corilla) with trout and also to improve the fishing." Whether appropriation of Club monies was made or private subscriptions solicited for the above purposes up to 1894

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does not appear in the Club minutes, but in January of that year, there is a notation to the effect that Mr. Frame was authorized to expend \$100.00 to stock the lakes with fish. It is assumed that from the last mentioned date there was frequent restocking of the lakes, though but once, namely November, 1907, until the fall of 1912, is it officially recorded. From 1912 on, however, there appears an almost yearly record of restocking and appropriations therefor, so that we have actual records of various expenditures, totaling from 1894 to 1923, about \$2,300.00. This figure, however, because of probable gaps in the records undoubtedly falls far short of the actual amount spent. To carry the story up to the present time, there was recently received by the writer a communication from D. M. Van Vliet in which he stated that about \$3,000.00 had been expended during the past ten years for restocking our lakes and streams with smallmouth fry, four to nine inch trout, minnows and crawfish. This would indicate a conservative estimate of considerably over \$5,000.00 as the total cost of restocking. The restocking of the lakes took the form of planting black bass fry, mostly in Wolf and Corilla although all three lakes shared frequently in these supplies.

The following items culled from the minutes of Directors' meetings, over a few years may be of interest. They are, of course, only a few of many similar records up to the present time.

November, 1913. "Fish and Game Committee

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reported 6,000 smallmouth bass planted in Wolf Lake and 1,000 in Corilla, 7,000 smallmouth bass also ordered for spring delivery."

November 17th, 1914. "Appropriation not exceeding \$200.00 for purchase of 7,000 Black Bass Fry from Waramoug Black Bass Hatcheries for Wolf Lake for delivery during June or July of 1915."

February 21st, 1919. "\$250.00 granted for smallmouth bass fingerlings for all lakes."

In 1916, there arose the question of the advisability of planting fresh water shrimps, and the Fish and Game Committee was authorized to purchase and plant the shrimps at an expense not to exceed \$25.00. This was done but the results were entirely unsatisfactory, none of the shrimps surviving. It was also decided in the fall of 1916, on recommendation of the Fish and Game Committee, who had in mind the preservation of the bass, that the privilege of fishing for pickerel through the ice in Corilla and Wolf Lakes during the months of December, 1916 and January, 1917, be given to anyone on the President's authorization. In February of 1917 the Committee reported that during the months above referred to, pickerel had been taken from the three lakes as follows: Wolf Lake 463, Corilla 252, Forest Lake 353. Smallmouth bass were found in many of the pickerel caught. Since 1921 there have been planted, of smallmouth black bass "fry," about 25,000 in all; and in 1928 the Federal Government shipped us, without cost, 500 three and four inch fingerlings

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which were put in Wolf Lake and have greatly improved the fishing. To keep up the food and bait supply, there have been distributed some 18,000 minnows, and several lots of crawfish, but the latter have not thrived.

Under date of May 9th, 1922, there appears this record in our minutes: "Mr. Clyde B. Terrell had been engaged, through the efforts of a number of the members of the Club who had contributed the sum of over \$500.00, to come to the Club and make a survey of the physical condition of lakes and grounds. As a result, he is to furnish certain aquatic plants which will assist in proper feeding of our fish and should aid in attracting wild duck." This plan was carried out in Forest Lake over a period of two seasons but with negative results.

During the seasons of 1922 and 1923 a number of black bass were transferred under careful supervision from Corilla Lake to Wolf Lake. Arrangements also were made to place breeding nests in Wolf Lake for the propagation of bass. This had the approval of Mr. Henry W. Beeman, owner of the Waramoug Bass Hatchery at New Preston, Connecticut. This was not done until 1925 and the results were not satisfactory. Plans also were made at that time, 1923, to transfer bass from Corilla Lake to Forest Lake. The dam at the outlet of Corilla Lake was entirely rebuilt, and screens were placed at the outlets of all three lakes to prevent the escape of fish.

Largemouth bass, so many of which are now found

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in Forest Lake, are not native to that water. The first lot, about 20 adults, running from two to five pounds in weight, were caught by Albert E. Hendrickson and Gerald Baird in Tink Pond about the year 1910 and transferred to Forest Lake. A few years later a small order for more adults added to the stock, and their propagation has gone on apace. Indeed, at the present time, during the season, catches of large fish, many running over four pounds in weight, are a frequent occurrence.

Our Club members have always been generous in the way of donations and apropos of this subject it may here be noted that in August, 1928, the thanks of the Club were extended to Fred Brackett and Edward Kemp for their donations of 1,000 trout to the Club for fishing purposes.

It has been rather difficult to tell a connected story of the restocking of our lakes as the reports of the transactions have overlapped to some extent; but enough has been set down to show how well the waters have been protected and how neither expense nor energy has been spared through all these fifty years to carry out one of the main purposes for which the Club was formed, namely, the preservation and propagation of fish and the furnishing of facilities that make our lakes a near approach to an "Angler's Paradise."

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THE STREAMS

There are three streams on or adjacent to our Club grounds that are of particular interest to the angler, though well worth anyone's time and effort to visit. They are Mast Hope Creek, Rattlesnake Creek and Forest Lake Brook. The two latter streams are tributaries of the first named. The Club owns Rattlesnake Creek from Flood Dam to about the point where it merges with Mast Hope Creek. Forest Lake Brook lies for at least a mile on Club property, while the Club owns slightly more water on Mast Hope Creek. Mast Hope Creek and Rattlesnake Creek come together a short distance below the Casetown bridge.

Mast Hope Creek has its rise in Perkins' Pond, which one passes on the way to Narrowsburg, and follows in a general way our northern and eastern boundary lines, until it reaches the Delaware into which it empties. In the old Indian days, Mast Hope Creek was known as Pine Creek and there were several Indian encampments along its lower end. A battle was fought between the Indians and some troops from Port Jervis, at the spot where the creek empties into the Delaware.

Rattlesnake Creek rises in Williams' Pond, a small lake about four or five miles northwest of the Club. It is also fed by a small stream known as Open Woods Pond, nearby Williams' Pond. Rattlesnake Creek gets its name from a famous snake den on top of a



"BLACK ASH RUN." (FOREST LAKE BROOK)

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ridge which the brook passes. Wolf Lake outlet empties into Rattlesnake Creek just above where the Wayne County line crosses the old "Plank Road," some distance above Flood Dam. The original dam is said to have been largely built by a beaver colony.

Forest Lake Brook is a short stream having its source at the outlet of Forest Lake and emptying into Mast Hope Creek between the two iron bridges on the old "Plank Road." Trail No. 4 called the "Brook Trail," follows the brook from the Mast Hope Road to its source at the dam.

These waters are all natural trout streams but they have been restocked several times in the last ten or twelve years. Trout up to fourteen inches in length and limit catches are frequently reported and the trout fishing in May and June offers rare sport to Club members who enjoy the woods at this season.

Zane Grey, in his "Tales of Fresh-Water Fishing,"¹ gives the following beautifully descriptive picture of "Mast Hope Brook in June."

"Of the myriad of streams that Cedar, Reddy and I have fished in, Mast Hope Brook is the one beyond compare. It is a joy, the substance of which are low tinkle and gurgle of unseen current beneath green banks; glancing sheets of hemlock brown water shining in the sun, rushing soft and swift around the stones; and in the distance dreamy hum of waterfall, now lulling, now deepening to mellow boom.

¹ "Tales of Fresh-Water Fishing," by Zane Grey, reproduced by permission of Harper & Brothers.

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"We left the road at the little village and took to the brook trail winding through mass-thickets of rhododendron. The buds showed ambitious glints of pink. There were weedy, swampy, grassy places, blue with violets, and cool, fragrant, dewy dells to cross before we came up into an open valley. . . . The trees were full-foliaged, the maples blowing like billows of a green ocean. The sun was dazzlingly bright. From time to time we caught alluring glimpses of the dancing brook. Everything was bathed in the rich, thick, amber light of June."

With such a tribute as the above, and from so famous an author and angler, there is reason for The Forest Lake Club to be proud of its streams, to protect them and enjoy them.

XIII

WOODS AND TRAILS

THE woods and trails of The Forest Lake Club are, apparently, not appreciated quite as much by the majority of our present members as they were by those of the earlier days. We do considerable tramping—over the links. We occasionally venture into the woods to hunt—the golf ball. Motoring, too, has become such a diversion and time saver that the short walks to the lakes are sometimes too long—even for the fisherman. To compare the merits of walking as a means of exercise with golf or tennis, is not to deprecate either method. But walking, after all, is the most natural way of keeping fit, yet few of us practise it. Besides, here lies the opportunity, right at our threshold, of learning something about the trees and shrubs, the birds and other wild life; in short, an opportunity for nature study that can scarcely be matched anywhere; and most of us pass it by with a very sketchy nod of recognition.

Elmer Gregor has given to the writer the following complete list of the trees to be found in our woods—fifty species in all:

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Balsam Fir	Pin Oak
White Pine	Yellow Oak
Pitch Pine	White Oak
Red Pine	Black Jack Oak
Tamarack	Rock Oak
Black Spruce	Swamp White Oak
Red Spruce	Tulip
Hemlock	Sassafras
White Walnut	Witch Hazel
Bitter Nut Hickory	Sour Gum
Shag Bark Hickory	Mountain Ash
Pig-nut Hickory	Shad Bush
Gluncos Willow	White Hawthorn
(Pussy Willow)	Wild Cherry
Quaking Aspen	Choke Cherry
Large-tooth Poplar	Staghorn Sumach
Hornbeam	Poison Sumach
Gray Birch	Sugar Maple
(White Birch)	Red Maple
Black Birch	Striped Maple
Yellow Birch	Box Elder
Black Alder	Basswood
Gray Alder	Black Ash
Beech	White Ash
Chestnut	Flowering Dogwood
Red Oak	Sycamore

These forests of ours were probably lumbered and burned over several times before the founding of the Club, and even in our time forest fires have taken

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their toll. In 1892 a fire swept Mount Ogden and left standing only a few large trees between the Club House and Wolf Lake. Within the last dozen years, however, our fire breaks have been well preserved and such lumbering operations as have been carried on under the direction of the Club during its existence have been only such as were necessary to remove dead timber or that affected by blight; or, in two or three instances, for the production of necessary revenue. In these latter cases the operations were conducted in those portions where thinning of the woods would be beneficial rather than harmful. Two of these lumberings have been referred to in a previous chapter and, on both occasions, occurred in the heavily timbered section on the east side of Mount Hadden. The blight mentioned began several years prior to 1919, was general throughout the country and affected many of our forest trees, particularly the chestnuts. In October of the above year, it was decided that steps be taken to scientifically and judiciously remove the dead chestnuts and such other blight-affected trees and other growth as was endangering the forest lands, and accordingly, this plan was carried out as promptly as possible.

Groving has been carried on from the earliest days of the Club, but since 1912 we find many records of appropriations made for carrying on this work in a systematic and scientific manner. For the last ten or twelve years, one has been able to obtain a very fair vista of Corilla from the Club House porch, due

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to the groving of the woods between the lower boundary of the enclosure and the lake. Whereas in the early years one could see the original Forest Lake from the Club House, this part of the lake is no longer visible because of the increased growth of timber. This is more than made up for at present by the view to be had of the greater lake.

It has seemed appropriate at this point to tell something of the manner in which our woods have been cared for and protected. When the first standing committees were formed, a Committee on Forestry was appointed, whose sole duty was the care and protection of the forests. Later, this work was taken up by the Fish and Game Committee, and since 1920 has been carried on by the Fish, Game and Forestry Committee.

In 1918, under the leadership of Elmer Gregor, there was formed an association of members called the Forest, Fish and Game Protective Committee, of which Mr. Gregor was Chairman, Louis H. Dos Passos, Secretary, and Richard Lahey, Treasurer; the other members being Frank E. Davidson, Fred M. Johnson, Emile Hurtzig and Charles W. Campbell. The committee was financed entirely by voluntary subscriptions. As the name implies, the objects of the committee were the protection of the forests by the cutting of fire trails and paths; replacing the old timber, as it was cut, by new growth; restocking the lakes and particularly the trout streams; placing corn in the lakes to attract wild fowl; building brush shel-

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ters for the protection of grouse and other birds during inclement winter weather, and protecting the Club lands and waters from illegal hunting and fishing. The committee was, of course, entirely independent of the standing Committee on Fish and Game and was formed for the purpose of furnishing what seemed to be necessary additional protection to the Club property. This committee functioned for several years, and accomplished an unusual amount of good work. It was during its régime that Forester Ralph Blackmore was engaged, and at the same time was appointed a special deputy fish and game warden by the state. During this time beside the cutting of miles of fire paths, several of the original trails were recut and many new ones added.

Some extracts from the very complete and interesting report rendered to the Club members by this committee for the year 1919, are well worth setting down as a permanent record. In a "Foreword" the committee states: "Every private club owning acreage of forest lands must, of necessity, be vitally interested in checking the rapid decrease in the nation's timber reserve. An authority has recently stated that in the South alone the forests are disappearing at the rate of 50,000 acres a day, and that by 1960 the total lumber supply of the United States will have disappeared through the destructive and wasteful methods employed by American lumbermen . . . the preservation of all wild animals and bird-life is wholly dependent upon the reproduction of forests.

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Where game and fish abound there will also be found a splendid means for healthful outdoor life." The report goes on to state: "During the year the Committee has cut twenty-six and a half miles of fire trails and paths. The fire trails have been cleared for a width of twenty to twenty-five feet; the brush piled and burned. Two fire trails, Pine Ridge and Corilla Ridge, are new trails, and protect a great area of club land which never before has had protection. Pine Ridge Trail protects a large section heavily timbered with pines and hemlock. Corilla Ridge Trail completes a circle of fire breaks entirely around our lake from which it is named. The club property, for the first time, is now entirely encircled with fire breaks."

Further operations included the scattering of eight hundred pounds of corn around the west shore of Wolf Lake to attract wild fowl, which led to gratifying results in the increased flocks that came in to feed, and the restocking of Mast Hope Creek and the outlet of Forest Lake, in 1919 and 1920, with trout obtained from the Pennsylvania State Fish Commission. Three hundred trespass notices had been posted along the club boundaries.

The plans for 1920 included: Maintenance of all fire breaks and trails; creation of camp sites; planting of pine to take the place of diseased chestnuts; planting of feed for game birds and groving the woods. The above plans were all carried out as appears from a report rendered by this Committee at the end of 1920. This report mentions a United

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States Geological survey made of our property in the fall of 1920 which gives the following official altitude figures:

In front of the club house	1382 feet
Mount Ogden	1430 feet
Mount Hadden	1440 feet
Wolf Lake	1300 feet

The duties of the new "Fish, Game and Forestry Committee," created by the revised by-laws of the Club in 1920, were modeled along the lines of the "Protective Committee," the members of which were appointed to the new committee, and the "Protective Committee" automatically ceased to exist. The new committee in 1921 built a cabin for the game warden half way between the boat house on Corilla Lake and the Rowlands Road. This cabin is still standing though it has been unoccupied for several years. The present forester now occupies comfortable quarters in the old bowling alley. An attractive rustic bridge was constructed over the brook where the Mount Hadden trail crosses the outlet of Corilla Lake. Substantial log benches were placed at spots on Mount Hadden where the best views are obtainable and along the trails to Corilla and Wolf Lakes.

Reforestation dates back some ten years, when 275 Red Pine seedlings were planted along the Corilla Lake Trail. Since then seedlings of White, Red and Scotch Pine, Douglas Fir, Norway Spruce and White

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Ash, amounting to over 75,000 in number, have been planted and a large percentage seems to be doing nicely. To furnish food for ruffed grouse and other birds, about 7,000 of such berry-producing shrubs as Japanese Barberry, Sour Gum, Mountain Ash, Black Alder and Wild Roses have been set in naturally protected areas on southern and eastern slopes. This reforestation has cost in the neighborhood of \$1,250.00 excluding a considerable part of the cost of labor for planting and the cost of boarding the labor.

Some excerpts and extracts from the reports of the committee over a few years may be of interest.

In 1921 the committee reported that the unsightly dead chestnut trees around the Club House, both within and without the enclosure, had been removed. Some of the lumber obtained from the fallen trees was sold as mine props, while other portions were used in the erection of the warden's cabin, as sills for boat houses, as cord wood and for other useful purposes.

The 1922 report contains the following: "In the spring a number of Chinquapin trees were planted. This high bush or tree grows well on rocky slopes, and bears a burr enclosing a nut about one-third the size of a chestnut." The idea in planting these trees was to furnish some food supply for the small game that formerly depended to some extent on the chestnuts.

The 1923 report states: "Twenty-five hundred

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Red Pine seedlings and one thousand Douglas Fir trees were planted during the year as follows: 1,000 seedlings bordering the Decker's Mills Road; 125 seedlings and 125 fir trees between Forest Lake and the Mast Hope Road; 250 seedlings near the summit of Mount Hadden; 250 seedlings on the south shore of Wolf Lake; 750 seedlings and 750 fir trees on the cut-over land northwest of Fisherman's Landing; 125 seedlings and 125 fir trees on the trail to Lake Teedyuscong."

The 1925 mid-year report reads: "A large quantity of dead timber has been cut around Wolf Lake and along the road to Mast Hope. The Committee is planting evergreens adjacent to the bathing beach at Wolf Lake and making a grove nearby. Sixteen hundred pine trees were planted this spring on the Club property."

On October 16th, 1931, the Executive Committee was authorized to take all necessary action and to make all expenditures necessary to remove the dead timber on the cottage sites and on other Club property in accordance with the recent recommendations made by a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture.

And so, each succeeding year has seen this important work go forward. These wonderful forests, handed down to us from our pioneer members, are being carefully preserved and we have a vision of passing on this heritage, unspoiled, to future generations.

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Some of our trails were laid out very early in the life of the Club; in some cases as a protection against forest fires, and in others as paths to the lakes and to various points of interest on the Club grounds. The path to Corilla was one of the earliest made. In 1888, it was recut to make it more direct and a few years ago was again changed slightly to eliminate a rather steep grade. In 1915 a path was made leading from the Mast Hope Road to the Forest Lake boat house to accommodate the fishermen.

About ten or twelve years ago several of the trails were recut and new ones added, so that not only was the entire property well protected against fire, but there were offered many interesting and delightful walks, varying from one-quarter of a mile to three and a half miles in length. At the present time there are twelve well defined trails. In many instances the trails cross or run into one another and at such points, white arrows have been attached to trees for the purpose of guidance. The trails have been designated by number and in many instances by name as well and are as follows:

1. WOLF LAKE TRAIL

Around Wolf Lake; distance, about three and a half miles.

2. TEEDYUSCONG TRAIL

Through the woods from the Club towards Teedyuscong, with a branch trail turning off and extending through Club land to the shore

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of the lake. This is about a mile and a half in length.

3. CORILLA LAKE TRAIL

This follows the path to the lake, thence along by the boat houses past the cabin to connect with trail No. 2. About three-quarters of a mile in length.

4. From Club House to Forest Lake, thence along southerly shore of the lake to the dam. This is about two and a half miles in length.

5. MOUNT HADDEN TRAIL

Along trail No. 4 to the stream connecting Corilla and Forest Lake, thence up Mount Hadden, encircling this plateau. One may then continue east to the dam or south and then west around the southern end of Corilla to the Rowlands Road. From the Club to Mount Hadden and return the distance is about two miles.

6. FOREST LAKE TRAIL

Club House to Forest Lake, thence along westerly shore of lake to the Mast Hope Road. Distance one mile.

7. PINE RIDGE TRAIL

Commencing at north side of Mast Hope Road about one mile from the Club House, and continuing along the northern Club boundary until it again crosses Mast Hope Road about a quarter of a mile below the Old Farm bridge. About three and a half miles long.

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8. SHORT CUT TRAIL

This runs a quarter of a mile from the spring on the Pine Ridge Trail to the Mast Hope Road.

9. FOREST LAKE SPRING TRAIL

Begins about a mile and a half down the Mast Hope Road; runs along the eastern shore of Forest Lake to the dam. A short trail has been cut from the dam to the spring nearby. Distance from Club House to spring is about two and a half miles.

10. BROOK TRAIL

Running along Forest Lake Brook from Mast Hope Road to the dam. One mile in length.

11. From Fisherman's Landing in a northwesterly direction to the Plank Road. This is about two miles in length.

12. From Fisherman's Landing west by south to the Honesdale Road. About one-half mile.

Springs are to be found along many of our trails and close to the shores of all three of our lakes. They are especially numerous along the southeastern shore of Forest Lake and there are at least twenty-two on our entire property, as a reference to the latest map will show. Lean-to cabins have been erected near some of these springs; one is situated on the west shore of Wolf, another at the south end of Corilla, a third on the south shore of Forest Lake, and a fourth at the spring on the Pine Ridge trail where this intersects with the Short Cut trail. It will readily be seen, with so generous a choice of a camping ground

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for the rendezvous and because the trip can be made almost entirely by canoe, why picnic-suppers have become so popular. These little affairs, usually more or less impromptu, give the men an opportunity to show off a bit as cooks and the entire party a chance to go native for a few hours. Camping over night in the woods, once or twice during the season, usually once, has always been a favorite diversion of the young boys. Ordinarily they are back at the Club House the following morning long before breakfast time, having eaten much and slept little, and with harrowing tales of attacks by wild animals and wilder mosquitoes.

The country hereabouts is rich in Indian lore and legend and there are still to be found, on our Club lands, abundant traces of Indian occupancy. Probably the red man followed, in a general way, many of our present day trails. We are certain that he camped and lived along our lakes and streams; and it is fascinating to try to picture the scenes of those days. Wolf Lake, as we shall see later, was a favored place of encampment. Blot out the boat houses and banish the automobiles from the parking space; grow again the trees that formed the beautiful grove near the bathing beach; then see the teepees, a half dozen, perhaps, strung along the shore, the smoke issuing from their tops in thin spirals. Can you see the little Indian children playing in the sand at the lake's edge? No sand box; no nurse to look after them. But the Indian mothers, busy as they are, making pottery,

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fashioning arrow heads, cooking, or performing various other tasks, are watching out; and if the little savages should fall into the lake, they are quite likely to scramble out by themselves, unharmed. Here, emerging out of the deeper shadows of the woods comes a party of braves, who have been successfully hunting the wild deer and turkey. A canoe is paddled swiftly in from the middle of the lake, and a string of fish, to make the modern angler sick with envy, is brought ashore. The wolf of Wolf Lake lies deep in his cave by day, but his howling at night sometimes makes the little Indians whimper in their sleep.

Not only did the aborigines live in their teepees or wigwams, but they made use of natural shelters whenever possible. The following description of some of these early habitations was written by Elmer R. Gregor.

"INDIAN LEDGE"

"One of the most interesting spots on the Club property is the old Rock Shelter or so-called 'Indian Ledge' which is situated about a mile northward of Wolf Lake. This interesting aboriginal shelter is an overhanging ledge more than one hundred feet in length with a cavern or shelter beneath the overhanging roof wherein the redman and his family camped and lived before the arrival of the white man. The ledge was 'discovered' and explored in 1903 by Walter B. Rockwood and Elmer R. Gregor who recov-

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ered many interesting Indian artifacts from the site. More than one hundred pieces of Delaware and Mohawk pottery, numerous net sinkers—bone awls—arrow heads—hammer stones—amulets, etc., were found and identified. Besides, great quantities of split bird and animal bones were found—including leg and shoulder bones of deer and elk—turkey bones—beaver teeth—fox and muskrat skulls, etc. The 'Indian Ledge' soon became known to the out-door enthusiasts of the Club and for many years 'hikers' made frequent visits to the ledge to 'dig for Indian relics,' until today there is little left of archaeological value."

Later, Mr. Gregor discovered that two smaller shelters or overhanging ledges bore evidences of former Indian occupancy. One is the ledge below the Wolf Ramble summer house. The other is the small overhanging ledge at the children's playground near the bathing beach. Indian pottery and other primitive artifacts have been found at both of these places, giving evidence that in the long ago Wolf Lake was a favorite rendezvous of the Indian.

Today, as we walk along our trails through the woods or fish in our lakes and streams, the scene that greets the eye is so similar to that upon which the Indian must have looked a century and a half ago, that could he return and view it again, he would surely recognize at once his former home and hunting grounds.

XIV

WILD LIFE

THE BIRDS

IT is said that in the Buck Hill Falls section of the Poconos, thirty or forty miles south of the Club, there have been noted one hundred and thirty-six varieties of birds, and there is reason to believe there are at least as many kinds to be found within the environs of The Forest Lake Club, situated as it is in the same type of country. Elmer Gregor gives one hundred and forty-eight varieties as seen and identified by him.

Disappointment has sometimes been expressed that so few birds are to be seen; but it must be remembered that most visitors to the Club are there only in July and August and it is before and after that period of the year, especially in the spring, that the birds are present in the greatest numbers. The robins and the black birds are among the first arrivals, some of them appearing as early as the middle of March; and then, during the next few weeks, come the blue birds and red wings, ruffed grouse, grackles, red shouldered hawk, nuthatch and northern black cap. The kingfisher and the osprey spend some time with us, and the geese and various ducks pay a very early and per-

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functory call on their way to far northern climes. But we will see them again in the fall. The blue herons and the green and black crowned night herons stay with us considerably longer and many Club members will recall the lone blue heron that was to be seen, sometimes on Forest Lake, sometimes on Wolf, summer after summer for many years. The following lines from John C. Van Dyke's "The Meadows" seem appropriate in describing this well known feathered visitor.

THE BLUE HERON

Grey gaunt and grim,
Silent and solitary
I find you by the wood pool's brim
Without your Highland Mary.

Yes: quite alone,
For she with whom you mated
Afar to other pools has flown
As though your sight she hated.

You sulk and doze
And worry without reason
You lose your color and your clothes
And curse the moulting season.

But this divorce
Is summer's ending merely;
In spring another wife of course,
Will love you quite as dearly.¹

¹ "The Meadows," by John C. Van Dyke, reproduced by permission of Charles Scribner's Sons.

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Birds that may often be seen in late spring and early summer are the scarlet tanager, blue jay, oriole, warblers, sand piper, veery, vireo, junco and the wood and the hermit thrush. The whippoor-will is heard in June, as are the oven birds, fly catchers and thrushes; and the woodpeckers, flickers, and sapsuckers, so well called by Burgess the "Drummers and Carpenters," are busily at work. The warblers are seen among the rhododendrons, and the water thrushes are found along the streams. The crows, like the poor, we have always with us, to the great detriment of a smooth fairway and a newly made putting green.

In July, many of the songsters are silent and in August, few are seen or heard except the nighthawk, cliff and barn swallows, indigo buntings, and black birds. In the late fall the woodcock and partridge are abundant; the ducks and geese visit us again for short periods and then, when winter spreads her mantle, the siskins, cross bills, and red polls arrive to feed on hemlock seeds and berries. In January, 1885, Mr. Minturn took up twelve quail and placed them in a room in the Club House with the intention of liberating them in milder weather. No success apparently attended the carrying out of this plan and quail are conspicuous by their absence.

Most birds are insectivorous and for this one gives thanks when it is remembered that some caterpillars consume daily twice their weight in leaves. Of the appetite of birds it has been said that if there were but

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one nest of robins to the acre in Pennsylvania, each nest containing four young, each bird weighing one ounce, only four ounces to the acre, it would take 3,600 tons of insects to feed the birds of Pennsylvania for a single day. (Carroll B. Tyson's "The Poconos.") This would seem to point to the importance of protecting our bird life against some of its natural enemies. A reference to the rules regulating hunting and fishing, as set down in a previous chapter, will show that the beneficent and harmless wild life in the vicinity of the Club has always remained unmolested. It is perhaps appropriate in this connection to record that the employment of a game warden was authorized in February, 1913, and one was engaged in the following May.

It is reported in the records, that in the fall of 1914 some money was subscribed for the purchase of wild ducks for the following year. This followed the suggestion of William L. De Bost, who, with others, held the opinion that ducks placed on the lakes and plentifully fed would thrive and multiply and become a yearly decoy for others of their kind. The ducks were obtained, and, after clipping their wings, placed on Wolf. They became quite tame and seemed to take as much pleasure as the bathers in swimming back and forth to the raft—in fact, the latter finally became so jealous of their web-footed friends' aquatic ability, that they banished them to a pen on the other side of the lake. This

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plan lasted for another season and then the experiment was abandoned.

Following this, about 1920, a duck enclosure was built on Wolf Lake and an attempt was made to breed wild mallard ducks for decoy purposes. A report of the Fish, Game and Forestry Committee for 1921 states that the flock had been firmly established and that it was the hope of the Committee to be able in the fall to furnish live decoys to members and their guests. Thirty ducks, raised during the spring of 1922 and held on Forest Lake during that summer, were released in the fall in the belief that some of them would return in the spring to breed; but this much desired event did not materialize and the breeding attempt was finally abandoned. In 1920, three duck blinds, built of logs as permanent structures, were erected on the shores of Wolf Lake, and have been available for many years.

The above paragraph leads naturally to the story of the "Wild Geese" so well told by Billy De Bost, who was one of the leading characters in the drama. One spring, several years ago, Mr. De Bost sent up to the Club two pairs of wild geese, he having entertained the idea of making them permanent decoys. The orders were to place one pair in Wolf and the other in Corilla and the commands were strictly carried out; but someone, either through slight carelessness or, perhaps, because of Quaker propensities put the two gentlemen in one lake and the two lady geese in the other. Then was set up such a honking as had

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never before disturbed those placid waters; and signals of distress were exchanged between the caretaker of the Club and the author of the experiment. But, "Love will find a way" and after a hectic and noisy forty-eight hours, the tumult suddenly ceased and all four birds were found swimming happily around together. Those old ganders, with wings clipped but with stout hearts had finally pushed through the woods from lake to lake and joined the ladies.

THE ANIMALS

A list of 28 species of mammals has been given by Mr. Gregor as follows:

Black Bear (rare)	Raccoon
Canadian Lynx (now rare)	Woodchuck
Bay Lynx (Bobcat)	Weasel
Timber Wolf (accidental)	Varying Hare
Virginia Deer	Cottontail Rabbit
Otter (rare)	Gray Squirrel
Mink	Red Squirrel
Muskrat	White-footed Wood Mouse
Porcupine (rare)	Star-nosed Shrew
Skunk	Short-tailed Shrew
Red Fox	Common Mole
Gray Fox	Chipmunk
Cross Fox	Flying Squirrel
	Beaver
	Long-tailed Jumping Mouse

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It would be an unpleasant experience to most of us to come in contact with some of the above-mentioned animals, but little is to be feared. The wolf has ceased to exist in our woods and the Canadian Lynx is extremely rare. The Bay Lynx or "Bobcat" is undoubtedly still with us; we hear him occasionally and his tracks are often seen when the snow is on the ground, but he himself is very successful in keeping out of sight of man, and he will not attack unless provoked to battle.

After all, the bear question seems to be one of veracity. This animal is rare now in these parts, but, if Frank Dexter and the writer can be believed, a black bear was seen by them this past summer about two miles north of the Club House on the old Plank Road; bruin, however, is extremely shy and will put as much distance as possible between himself and man, and in the shortest time.

The otter is now very rare in this region, undoubtedly the penalty exacted for his possession of such a beautiful silky coat. The banks of lakes and streams are the habitat of this animal and he feeds almost entirely on fish. He dives into the water from the bank, or, where possible, makes slides down into the water the more easily to get at his prey. He is a nomadic creature and travels around from lake to lake, sometimes visiting several in his search of a day's food supply.

The mink is still fairly common. He is a member of the weasel family, equally at home on land or in

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the water and besides having a liking for fish, will prey upon almost any animal of his size or smaller. He is, in turn, hunted most persistently for his fur. So there are two sides to his story.

The muskrat, as its name implies, belongs to the rodents. He has a rat-like head, a long laterally flattened, scaly tail and his fur is brown above and gray below. His hut-like home of mud, twigs and dried grass is built on the borders of streams and lakes, and his food consists of roots, tender shoots and leaves of aquatic plants, with an occasional fish dinner.

The raccoon is related to the bear family, though nocturnally inclined and not at all ferocious. He is grayish-brown, with a black cheek-patch and black-and-white ringed tail. He preys largely on aquatic animals, and, in turn, his principal enemy is the college boy.

The red fox is, of his family, the most commonly found in our woods. He has been called all kinds of hard names and his cunning is proverbial; yet his hunting is confined largely to field and wood mice rather than birds and poultry, and he is himself one of the most hunted of the animals.

It is said that the beaver is coming back, after a period of almost total extermination. Probably no animal has been so persistently hunted to satisfy the craving of man (or is it woman?) for his beautiful fur. After all, this sagacious and industrious little animal, who is perfectly harmless and lives entirely

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on bark and twigs, deserves to be welcomed back to our lakes and streams, and we should hail his return.

The remaining members in our list of mammals are also quite harmless, though in a manner of speaking, the skunk may be considered an exception. The wild cat, red squirrel, weasel, skunk and fox have been classed as bird enemies and blacklisted by the Club although some of our member naturalists take the view, and possibly with justice, that no one form of wild life, within reason, should be protected more than another, leaving the matter of protection of each species entirely to its own instincts of self-preservation.

When we come to speak of the deer, so plentiful now in our forests, there will be raised no dissenting voice as to his cordial welcome to The Forest Lake Club, even though he has occasionally to be driven off our fairways in order to obtain a good brassie shot. Fifty years ago the deer were many in number, but the absence of a closed season up to about eight or ten years ago almost spelled disaster for their continued existence. To stroll over toward the MacGregor cottage, as far as the turnstile, a little before dusk, almost any clear summer's evening, is to see these graceful creatures, sometimes four or five in number, materialize one after another from out the shadows of the woods—a novel sight for city eyes and one more attractive feature of The Forest Lake Club.

After all, why not consider the thousands of acres of The Forest Lake Club a preserve for the wild life

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whose homes these acres were long before man took possession.

“When they ask where you go in the summer,
And you answer, ‘Pike County not far,’
They prick up their ears and they murmur:
‘Oh! That’s where the rattlesnakes are!’ ”

It is said that in a certain History of Ireland, the subject of snakes is covered in the following single sentence: “There are no snakes in Ireland.” In the present history this subject, unfortunately, cannot be dismissed so curtly. As noted above, Pike County and the rattlesnake have long been linked together in the public mind, though perhaps unreasonably. It is true that there are or have been a great many rattlesnakes in this part of the country and formerly they were frequently seen about the Club grounds. Of late years, however, they have been much more rarely seen. Frightened by the golfers, perhaps.

The favorite haunts of the rattler are on rocky ledges or in the crevices of stone walls or boulders; and there is a famous “Rattlesnake Den” on the far side of Wolf Lake, which quite often has been visited by storming parties from the Club, and where many a rattlesnake, that might have bitten the children, has bitten the dust instead. Occasionally they have visited the golf links and been seen on the greens, but such sharp-shooters with the putter as Joe Merrill, John Honness and Donald Williams have about discouraged that venture. After all, the danger from

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

the rattler is fairly remote. He gives, usually, some warning of his presence and is quite as anxious to get away as one is to have him go. While a snake-bite serum is available in the Club's medicine cabinet and there would probably be little difficulty in securing the usual amateur remedy, the use of which, however, is open to question, the extermination of this creature is highly to be desired. The water snake and black snake are occasionally seen and, of course, our little friend, the garter snake. But these reptiles are quite harmless, however repugnant they may be.

XV

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

THE above title, though it may appear to some a rather homely and old-fashioned phrase, has been chosen for two reasons: One is that our Club fathers used it back in 1900 to designate what might be called the first authorized Entertainment Committee, and secondly, it seems to properly describe the lighter activities and diversions of the Club members as contrasted with the more serious ones such as fishing and hunting. Fishing, we know, must be taken seriously as every fisherman will agree and hunting often becomes a serious affair when, for instance, "buck fever" sets in. Even golf is at times in danger of joining this category, but, as taking it very seriously usually means the complete undoing of the golfer, we will catalogue it under "Sports and Pastimes."

For several years after the Club came into existence, no regularly organized effort was made for the entertainment of the members and their guests, aside from the privileges of fishing and hunting, which were naturally the predominating activities.

A croquet ground had been laid out in front of the Club House and this form of entertainment, though indulged in by some of the men as well as the

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women and children, was probably more or less spurned by certain of the younger set, who evidently felt the need of a more vigorous form of recreation. Accordingly, in January, 1888, several of the younger men, prominent among whom were Sam Ogden, Frank Davidson and Charlie MacGregor, conceived the idea of building a bowling alley and forming a bowling club, and application was made to the Board of Directors for permission to carry out their plans. The club was formed and called the Corilla Bowling Club. The Association Directors granted permission to the club on May 21st, 1888, to erect its house and alleys on the lot to the west and outside of the park grounds, and subscriptions were immediately solicited to provide funds for the proposed building. After considerable effort, about \$1,500.00 was subscribed and collected and by the late spring of 1889 the building of the bowling alley had begun.

The work had progressed as far as the erection of the frame and the roof had been put on, but not all of the siding. This more or less insecure state of affairs existed on a certain Sunday in the middle of that summer. Quite suddenly, a terrific thunderstorm came up, accompanied by a full gale, and very neatly and with little effort the roof was lifted en masse, deposited on the ground many feet away, and the domicile of the Corilla Bowling Club was temporarily left without its dome. This damage was soon repaired, however, and the bowling alley completed; but the Bowling Club, finding itself considerably in

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debt, appealed to the Association to take over the property in order to relieve it of its financial responsibilities. The Association Clerk, therefore, in January, 1890, was appointed to confer with the Corilla Club to straighten out the financial tangle, and a short time later the Association took a bill of sale of the building, assuming the debts of the club and the collection of subscriptions. So ended the somewhat hectic career of the Corilla Bowling Club, but the bowling alley remained as an integral part of the Association property and continued until a few years ago to give recreation and enjoyment to many members of The Forest Lake Club, especially during spells of bad weather. For many years there was a pool table in the bowling alley building until a billiard room was arranged for in the Club House.

In September of the year 1890, at the suggestion of Alfred B. Ogden, the Landscape Engineer, it was ordered that a playground be set aside east of the stone walk leading from the Club House to the Davidson cottage and between the Hawley Road and the barn road, and a short time later the croquet site was removed from in front of the Club House and placed on the playground. Up to this time then, there was, according to the records, bowling, billiards, croquet, and the so-called "Playground" for the entertainment of the members and guests. Just what sports were indulged in on the playground, other than the children's games, is not on record, but fireworks on the Fourth of July and a baseball game between the

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married and the single men would probably not be far from a correct surmise.

TENNIS

Our records in regard to tennis as far as the early history of the Club is concerned are very incomplete. Prior to 1903 the game was played on a single grass court laid out just west of the stone walk and about half way between the north porch of the Club House and the entrance gates. From photographs taken at that time no back-stops are in evidence and there must have been considerable additional exercise provided in running after balls. The first clay court was built by Joe Van Vleck about 1903 and had its site at about the center of the present courts. Tom M. Hall was a tennis enthusiast and it is recorded that in 1906 he presented a tennis outfit to the Club. This single court served for several years until shortly before 1910, when the present courts were built; and these have stood well the test of time. In 1928, an entire new back-stop was erected, formed of iron pipes and a new wire netting, a gift of Joseph Brobston. New posts were set in concrete for stretching the nets, and the courts were put in good condition. Much credit is due Bert Hendrickson for his attention and care of the courts during many seasons while on his vacation at the Club. Tournaments toward the close of each season have been the rule for many years, certainly as far back as 1909, as officially re-

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

corded, and in all probability from the grass court era. Nor has the interest in tennis waned, even with the present great popularity of golf; and the tennis tournament continues to be one of the chief events of the season in the realm of sports and pastimes.

TRAP AND TARGET SHOOTING

Trap shooting was for quite a number of years a very popular diversion. For some years prior to 1908 the range was situated at the site of our second fairway and the marksman took his stand just to the right of the large tree that so often interferes with what promises to be a perfect slice from the second tee. The photograph shows him blazing away, while the lady looks on in apparent admiration. In August, 1908, arrangements were made to remove the range to Mount Ogden. Accordingly, a good shooting stand was erected and a semi-pit built for the traps, a little to the south of the summer house and facing east. It behooved the trap boy to keep well under the protection of the stand, as it is said that on one occasion one of the young women said "Pull" and at the same time pulled her trigger, nearly penetrating the skin of the boy who supposed he was sufficiently out of range. In May of the same year, Elmer Gregor, who was much interested in the sport, had presented a barrel of clay pigeons to the Club. Among other enthusiasts of this sport were Albert E. Hendrickson, William L. De Bost and Harold C. Wil-

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liams. For several years the new range was well patronized, but about 1918 its popularity had waned and the traps were dismantled and stored away. The old platform was in evidence for only a few years more and finally it too disappeared into the limbo of the discarded.

Target shooting is another sport that enjoyed considerable popularity at one time. In a Club brochure printed in 1889 mention is made of a target range, but where it was located is unknown to the writer. Evidently the sport waned for a number of years thereafter, but about 1905 a new range was constructed by Joe Van Vleck. This was situated in the woods, on what is now the Thomas property, a couple of hundred yards to the left of the public road leading to the Thomas cottage. A rock ledge at the western end of the range furnished a natural and perfectly safe bullet-stop for even the most inexperienced rifleman. The range can still be defined, after a little search, though it has been considerably obliterated by undergrowth and brush.

HORSEBACK RIDING

It will be recalled that among the General Club Rules promulgated in the early days, there was one relating to the charge for keeping horses for private use on the grounds of the Association. This, of course, was long before the motor age and several members at that time availed themselves of the op-



ORIGINAL TRAP SHOOTING RANGE



LATER TRAP SHOOTING RANGE



SPORTS AND PASTIMES

portunity to indulge their tastes as horsemen. The Gregor cottage had its barn, built in 1882 and which was removed only within recent years. About 1901, George Mulligan was given permission to erect a stable a little to the north of the bowling alley. This stood until about 1915. It is presumed that other privately owned horses were quartered at the Club's stables. From about 1901 and continuing for several years, horseback riding was much in vogue and prominent among the equestrians of that time were Elmer Gregor, Charlie MacGregor, Walter Rockwood and young Dick Lahey, the latter the proud possessor of a Kentucky pony. A good many years later, for a season or two, Miss Josephine Merrill and Miss Betty Graham kept saddle horses at the Club.

GOLF

Only a few of the present members of our Club realize that golf was played there on an eight-hole course in the summer of 1899 when the game was in its infancy in this country. This course was, to be sure, a very primitive one and was laid out almost entirely within the Club House enclosure but was over 1,300 yards in length. The work was begun on July 13th, 1899, after the hay had been cut and permission had been granted to several enthusiastic young people who were looking for exercise and a first hand knowledge of this game. The first work was done by Elmer Gregor, George Kelly and Everett

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

Gould, assisted materially and sentimentally by several of the fairer sex and in about one week six holes were in a playable condition.

On August 8th, 1899, the first meeting of the Forest Lake Golf Club was held, a constitution was adopted and the following officers elected:

PRESIDENT—George M. D. Kelly

VICE-PRESIDENT—Edith I. Williams

SECRETARY AND TREASURER—Elmer R. Gregor

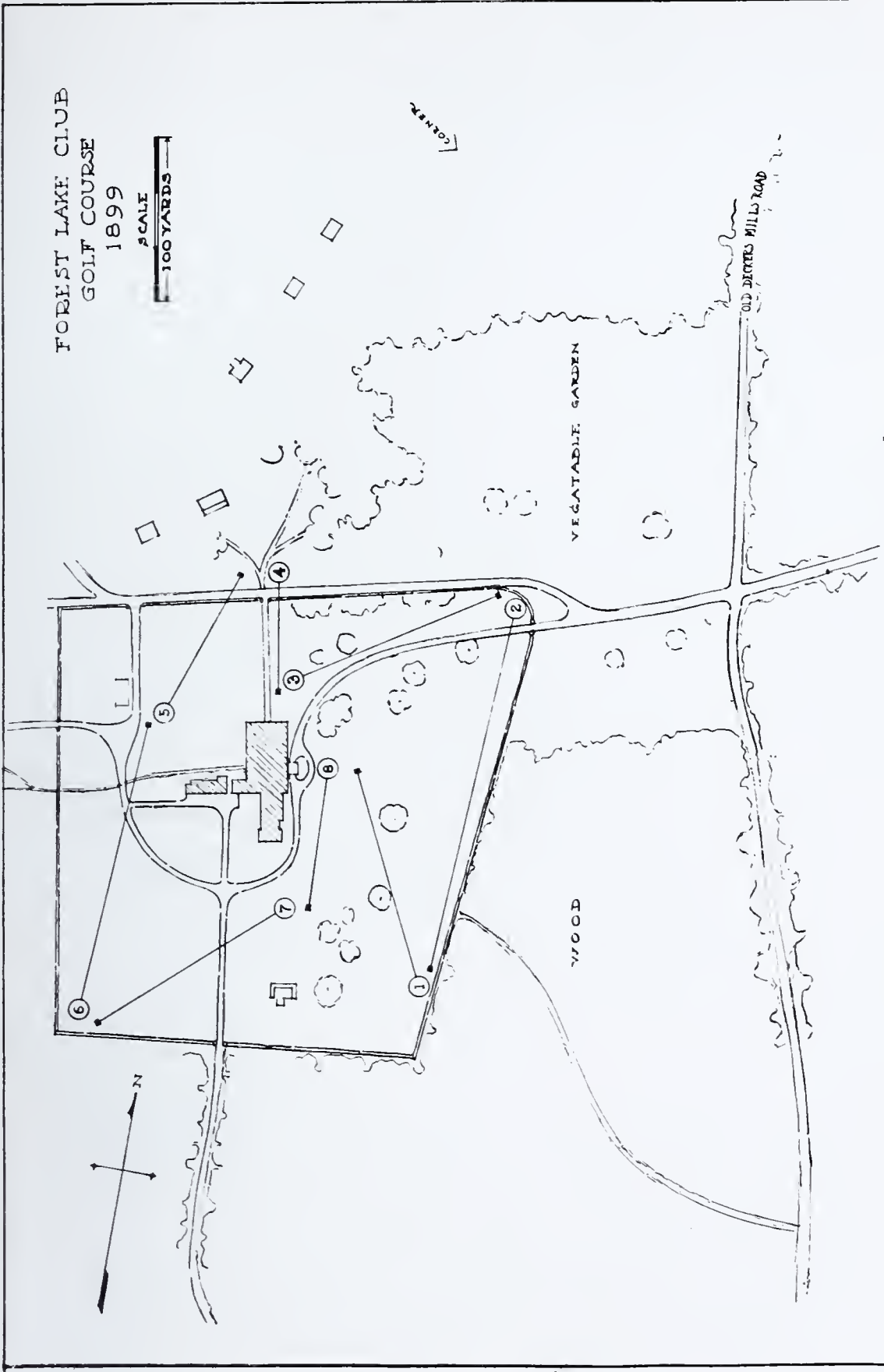
GREENS COMMITTEE—Loton H. Slawson and Everett W. Gould.

Two men and a team were then employed and the work was pushed so that the course was soon enjoyed by many of the members and guests and on Labor Day, September 4th, a tournament was held at which time a pewter cup was presented by Mr. Avis to the winner, Dr. Gould. It must be conceded that anyone who was familiar with the many natural hazards in the form of stubble, stone walls, roads and orchard trees had a decided advantage.

As this course completely surrounded the Club House and in many places came dangerously close to it, there was at once much justifiable criticism and well founded fear that serious casualties would result. The seventh fairway began down in the corner of the orchard and lay between Mr. Gregor's cottage and the Club House both of which were not infrequently bombarded by stray balls. Russell was a babe in arms and at times in a carriage so that his life was in a particularly precarious state. No one

FOREST LAKE CLUB
GOLF COURSE
1899

SCALE
100 YARDS



GOLF COURSE. 1899

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

was, therefore, greatly surprised when Dr. Hadden ordered that the course be plowed up and abandoned, but the minutes of the fall meeting of the Board record the fact that the Golf Committee had the temerity to write a letter of protest against such unwarranted action on the part of the officers. One can well imagine the dismay and indignation of the golfers. What had happened to the Corilla Bowling Club when its roof was blown off could with some justice be attributed to an act of Providence, but the plowing up of a golf links was such a palpable act of desecration that it could have been thought nothing less than the work of evil spirits.

How little did the directing authorities of The Forest Lake Club, as diagnosticians, know of this new disease. They did not recognize its chronic nature, nor the fact that though there might be periods of remission, it was sure to present recurrences sometimes in the form of active delirium. And so what happened was that it smouldered for a time and then flamed forth again.

The original Forest Lake Golf Club found its champion in the person of Benjamin A. Williams who, at a meeting of the Directors on April 20th, 1900, requested that accommodation for golf be made for the coming season. This was referred to the Executive Committee. It was also moved that the Clerk be requested to write to all members of the Club, and others interested in golf, inviting them to meet members of the Committee to devise ways and

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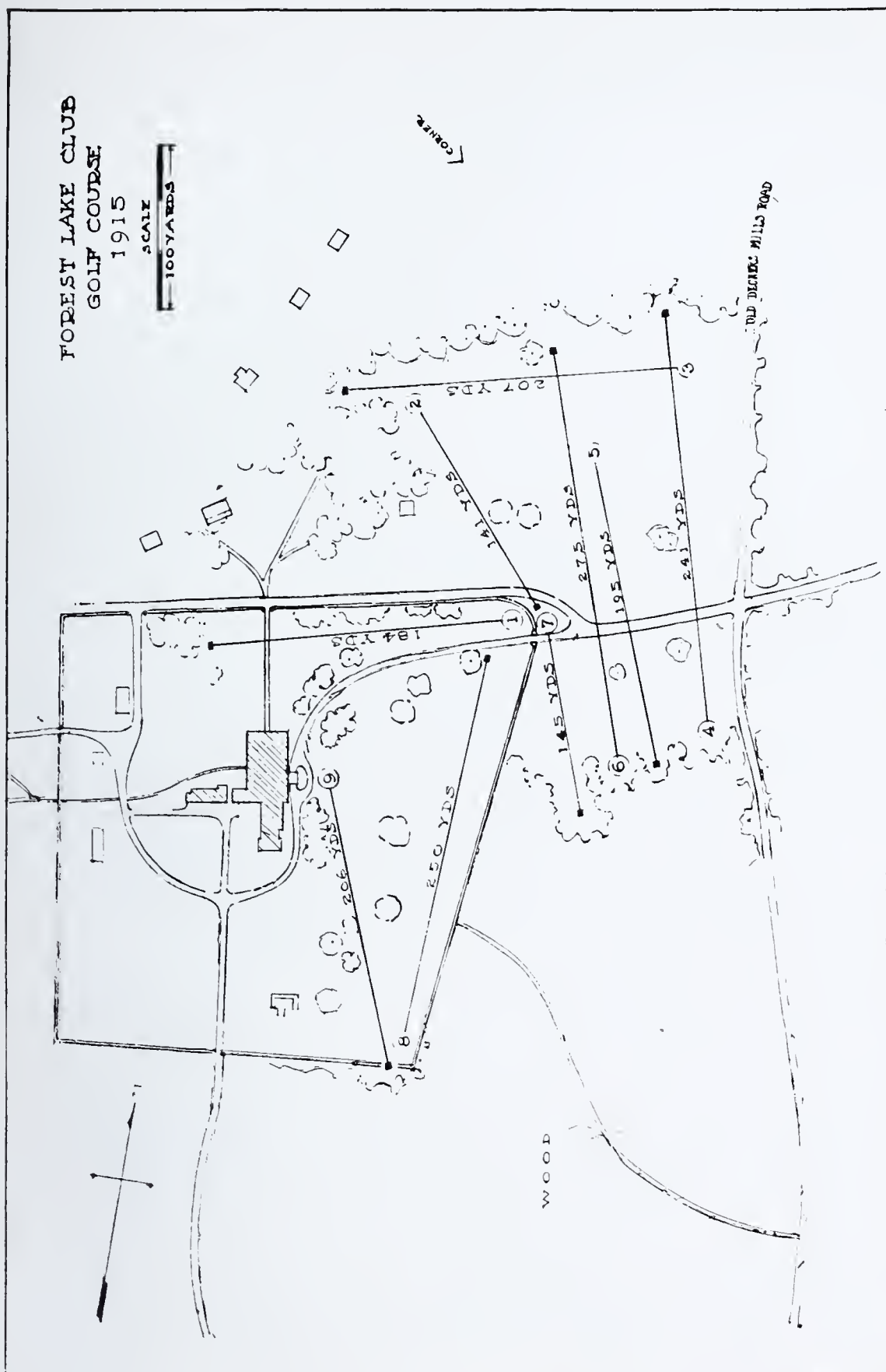
means for the establishment of a suitable golf links on the grounds of the Club. On June 11th, 1900, it was ordered that the field east of the Marshall cottage (the present Archer cottage) and the north-eastern portion of the Club House enclosure and such portion of Mount Ogden as might be desired, be placed at the disposal of the Committee on Sports and Games for the purpose of establishing golf links and such other pastimes as might be proper and suitable. Nothing came of the suggestion, however, as in all probability it was considered highly impractical to attempt to lay out a course on the land offered.

The objection to a golf course in such close proximity to the Club House was so deeply rooted in the minds of many members that no one dared for many years to suggest that a golf course be built on the clearing where it is now found. In fact, when golf enthusiasts began to urge the building of a course many years afterward, the desirability of purchasing Barclow's farm, three miles away, was seriously considered.

In the summer of 1915, sixteen long years after the first attempt to introduce the game at Forest Lake, decided action was finally taken when the President, Mr. Weston, and the other officers of the Club responded nobly to the entreaties of the golf enthusiasts, for it was then realized that the future of the Club depended largely upon the construction of a golf course which could be conveniently reached by members. The enclosure in front of the Club

FOREST LAKE CLUB GOLF COURSE 1915

SCALE
100 YARDS



GOLF COURSE. 1915



SPORTS AND PASTIMES

House and the clearing outside, which had been used for years as a garden, was then turned over to the Golf Committee with the understanding that the construction of the course and its maintenance should be financed entirely by the Golf Committee. Frank L. Dyer was Chairman of that committee and the other members were John F. Honness, William L. De Bost, Andrew Morrison and Everett W. Gould, who acted as Secretary and Treasurer of the committee. Voluntary subscriptions were asked from the members of the Club and during that fall and the following spring \$1,637.00 was collected and spent in the construction of the nine-hole course which formed the basis of the one which is used today.

No one unfamiliar with the physical condition of the Club grounds at that time can imagine the difficulties which were encountered in clearing the fairways and constructing the greens. Much credit should be given to A. L. Bishop, at that time superintendent of the Club, who entered enthusiastically into the construction of the golf grounds under the direction of the Golf Committee. For two weeks after Labor Day, 1915, Herbert Brown and Dr. Gould remained at the Club and personally labored with the superintendent and his crew constructing the greens and fairways which were put into a playable but crude condition for use during the summer of 1916.

The money that was subscribed, together with the greens fees collected during the first year, left the

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

committee with a balance of over \$100.00 at the end of the 1916 season. The Golf Committee has been practically self-supporting since that time, although the Club has always generously assisted the Committee by boarding laborers, furnishing teams and giving other material assistance when needed. Several members also have freely given their money, time and labor toward extensions and improvements in which they were particularly interested.

Numerous changes have been made in the course as originally laid out in 1915. At that time the clearing in front of the cliff upon which the third and fifth tees are now placed was a dense woods filled with rocks and boulders, but there was practically no soil. It required months of hard labor during the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 to convert that small tract into playable golf grounds. The stones required for building the De Bost and Livingston cottages were furnished without appreciably diminishing the supply. The large stone bunkers were constructed after hundreds of loads had been removed and the whole area was covered by tons of dirt drawn in during the next few years.

As will be seen by reference to the original scheme of the golf grounds, the land made available by the clearing under the cliff afforded an opportunity to radically change the layout of the course and it was largely due to Frank L. Dyer's vision that the crossing of the third and sixth fairways was avoided. When the fourth green was placed between the big

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

stone bunkers under the cliff and the third and fifth tees were placed on top of the cliff in 1923 and 1924, the second fairway was considerably lengthened by placing the second green in its present position. This last work was done largely under the supervision of William Burrows.

The seventh green which was originally in the triangle behind the second tee and between the two roads, with a large elm tree on its lower edge, was found to be in an awkward position and in the summer of 1928 was reconstructed in its present position under the supervision of Joe Van Vleck. The seventh tee was then pushed back in the woods about fifteen yards to avoid shortening the hole. The seventh fairway was again lengthened in 1930 by placing the tee farther back in the woods, as at present located.

When the changes were made in 1924 the original third green became the fifth green and was used as such till 1928 when the present fifth green was constructed and the fifth fairway was widened by cutting out the woods to the east. The original fifth green was entirely abandoned with the changes in 1924 and the green which then became the fifth was later abandoned when the present fifth green was constructed.

The present sixth fairway has undergone several changes. The Decker's Mills Road ran just outside a stone wall which was near the middle of the present fairway. In order to gain more land for the golf

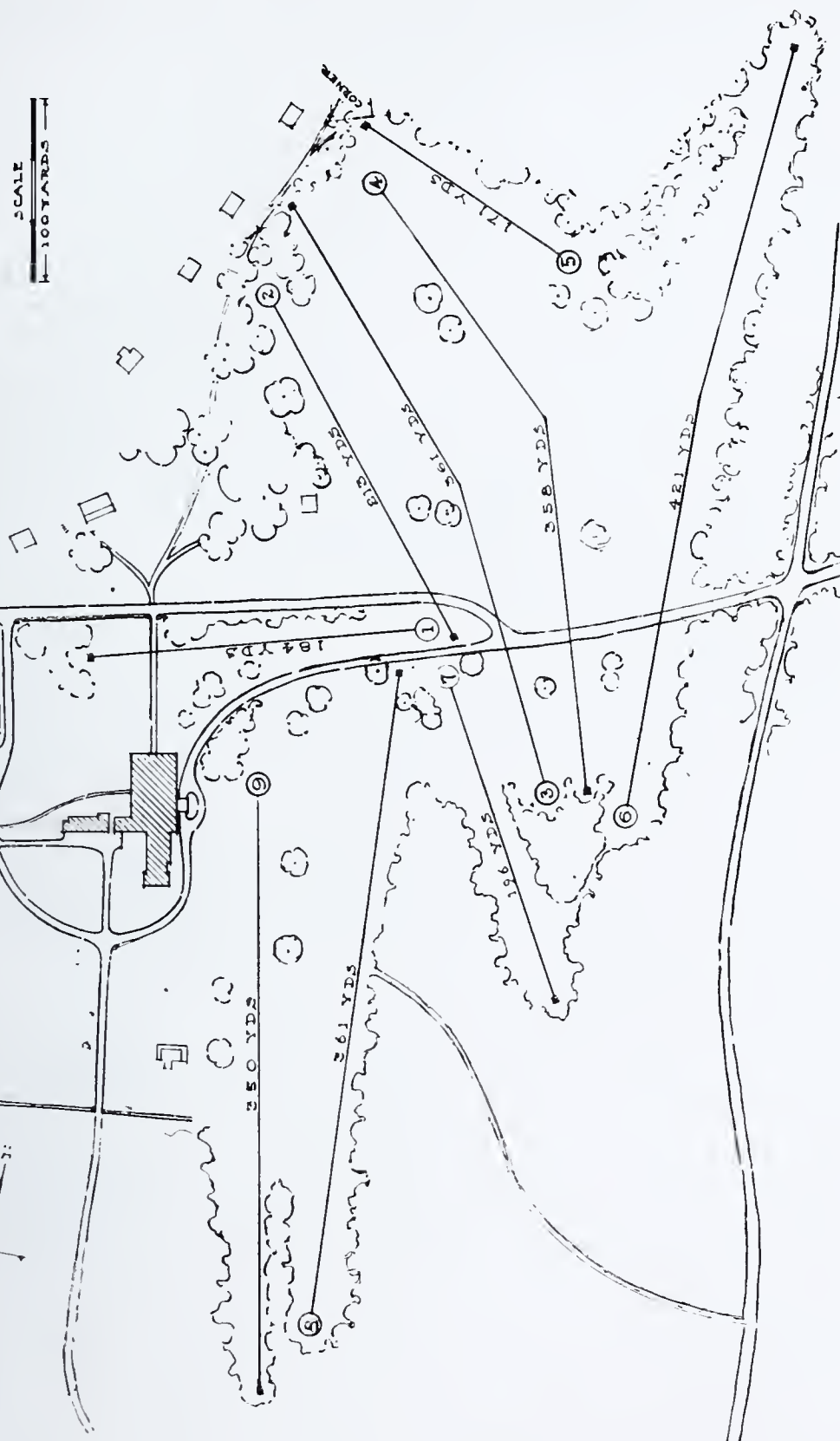
HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

course and at the same time to eliminate the intrusion of strangers, the public road was moved several rods to the east during the year 1929 under the efficient supervision of Harry Livingston. The sixth tee which had been on top of a large pile of stones at the edge of the woods was moved farther north and the fairway widened. The fairway was again lengthened by moving the sixth tee to its present position in 1930. The sixth green which was the original fourth green and which was constructed largely under the supervision of Herbert Brown, continued to be used until 1931 when it was abandoned and became part of the fairway in front of the present sixth green. On account of its position on the farther side of the moderate sized hill it was always a very tricky but attractive green. The large beautiful present sixth green was constructed in the woods beyond the old sixth green under the supervision of Harry Livingston and William Mansfield during 1930. The old vegetable cellar which served its purpose well during the early days of the Club and which was just to the northeast of the present fourth tee was removed when the present approach to the sixth green was constructed.

In 1929 the extensive improvements of the eighth and ninth fairways and the construction of the eighth green were undertaken and most efficiently carried out under the supervision of Harry Livingston and William Mansfield. The original eighth green was within the walled enclosure of the Club

FOREST LAKE CLUB
GOLF COURSE.
1932

SCALE
100 YARDS



GOLF COURSE. 1932

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

grounds and a few yards to the south of the old gateway leading to the original pathway to Corilla. The ninth tee was then on top of the stone wall behind and to the west of the eighth green. A tremendous amount of work was necessary to place the eighth green in its present beautiful setting and an equally big job was accomplished when the present ninth fairway was constructed.

During the fall of 1931 our Superintendent, Frank Dexter, under the supervision of Harry Livingston, William Mansfield, and Joe Van Vleck, scooped away the old ninth green which had served its purpose for so many years and used this soil to reconstruct the present green with its beautiful and artistic setting ready for use in the late summer of 1932.

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT

The Forest Lake Club has always been a rendezvous and a happy one for children. Here they have been free from many of the restrictions that necessarily pertain to summer hotel life and with so much space in which to roam about and play have seldom been troublesome to the older guests. Rainy days have sometimes proved exceptions, but allowances must be made not only for the children but for the older folks as well, shut indoors as they are on these occasions.

Many will recall with pleasure the children's parties which for so many years were given by Mrs. Davidson (Aunt Tillie of Callicoon, she called her-

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

self) and later were carried on by Mrs. Baird and then by Belle Archer (Aunt Mame and Aunt Belle). Sometimes the parties were held in the grove near the bathing beach, at other times in the Club House parlor. Mr. Avis so well described these happy occasions in one of his poems, that a few verses are here set down.

Every year she had a party
All the children were invited.
Aunt Tillie knew her business,
And not a kid was slighted.

All rigged for the occasion
Aunt Tillie would appear,
In dress of figured calico
And comical headgear.

Then to the front and center
While leaning on her cane,
She made the children welcome
In her usual happy vein.

The gifts were then presented
To all the girls and boys.
A bountiful selection was
Aunt Tillie's stock of toys.

There would always be a song by Aunt Tillie, perhaps some songs and recitations by the children, followed by games and then—grand climax—the refreshments.

For a number of years past, the children at the Club have been encouraged to interest themselves in the study of the trees, flowers and shrubs, and prizes have been awarded annually for the best collection



"AUNT TILLIE" OF CALLICOON

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

and classification of leaves and flowers. In order to assist the children in this activity a number of books on botanical subjects have been placed in the Club's library.

While there had been for many years a library of sorts at the Club, it was so small and unofficial that the name "Library" scarcely applied; but at a meeting of the Board on August 17th, 1915, a resolution was passed that "a library be founded at the Club and that the Secretary be instructed to write to the members of the Club requesting that they send to Mr. William T. Lahey any books they may wish to donate." This request was very quickly and liberally responded to, a "Library Committee" was formed and, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Safford K. Colby, the library was soon established.

In 1920, and still under the direction of Mrs. Colby, the library was completely refurnished, new bookshelves were installed and our "Reading Room" made decidedly attractive.

The Library Committee is granted an annual appropriation of \$25.00 with which to buy new books, besides which, there are always a number donated by the members. At the present time there are close to a thousand volumes, ranging over a wide field of literary tastes and including about four hundred and fifty children's books.

For several years past, Mrs. William C. Mansfield has officiated as Chairman of the Library Committee and it is due to her zeal in the work that this addi-

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

tional means of entertaining our members and guests has been so successful.

The first committee organized for the entertainment of guests was called the Committee on Sports and Pastimes of which George N. Williams, Jr., was chairman. This was in 1900 and very little is found recorded of its activities. In 1906 it became known as the Entertainment Committee and Frank Davidson was its first chairman. Since then it has continued to function under various leaders.

One of the important duties of the committee is to arrange for the winter dinners which have been held each season at one of the hotels in New York for a great many years, with but a few exceptions. The dinner usually takes place in March and is in the nature of a get-together party, looking forward to the coming summer season at the Club. At the present time, dancing, motion pictures of fishing, water sports and other Club activities of our members follow the gastronomic exercises and the occasion is looked forward to with much anticipation.

Week-end entertainment, during the season, was not so regularly furnished in the early days as it is now, although in 1909 it is recorded that a young lady was engaged for the season at a salary of \$75.00 a month to furnish entertainment and music. It is assumed that dancing by the guests constituted part of the program, possibly varied with vocal and instrumental selections.

For many years now, during July, August and



OLD TIME PICNIC AT WOLF

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

part of September, week-end dances have been the custom, in addition to such special occasions as the Fourth of July and Labor Day. In 1921, at a complimentary dinner given to the retiring President, Mr. Weston, there was inaugurated what has since been known as the "President's Dance." This is held usually on the Saturday before Labor Day and is the outstanding entertainment of the season. A costume ball held about the middle of August is also a gala occasion and one that must be witnessed to appreciate to what heights the Forest Lake folks can rise in the matter of original and beautiful costumes. For some years past these special dances have been conducted under the able direction of Dr. Gaines and credit is due him for their great success.

When it came to providing some unique or especially enjoyable form of entertainment for the Club members, the Archer family could always be depended upon to successfully carry out the project. The famous "circus" in the summer of 1906 is still a pleasantly reminiscent subject of conversation among the old-timers and the amateur plays furnished many an evening of real enjoyment.

The Entertainment Committee plans the Labor Day baseball game which invariably ends in a riot and the near death of the umpire. It also directs the water sports held on the afternoon of that day. On the Saturday preceding Labor Day the last of the golf tournaments is held and this day also witnesses the tennis finals.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

And now the summer season is nearly over. The Labor Day dance is taking place and during an intermission the season's champions in sports are awarded the prizes amid much applause; then—"on with the dance"—until the curfew tolls at midnight. Curtain!

The morrow will see a sad procession winding through the gates. Most of them are going home to rest.

WINTER SPORTS

Until a few years ago very few of our members visited the Club in winter. Inadequate heating and water supply in the Club House and poor road conditions largely contributed to this hiatus of winter visitors. All three of these difficulties, however, have been largely overcome and it is now a comparatively simple thing for one to drop in for a few days' visit.

Howard Van Vleck has been the pioneer in the endeavor, during the last three or four years, to establish winter sports at the Club, and several of these parties have been very successful. To give our members, and especially the younger ones, an idea of what this new Club activity has in store for them if they will avail themselves of it, the writer quotes a recent communication from Mr. Van Vleck:

"I have spent part of four Christmas seasons at the Club and one Washington's Birthday and have always found the house most comfortable, and the



WINTER SCENE

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

table service as varied and satisfying as we find it at the height of the summer season.

"Skating is usually at its best during Christmas week before the heavy winter snowfall, but after that the wealth of possibilities for snowshoeing and skiing is unlimited.

"The slopes of the golf course afford ideal conditions for the novice while the fire trails and woods create a wonderful field of endeavor for those who feel more certain of their balance.

"One thing to bear in mind is that the comfort capacity of the Club House necessarily limits the number of guests so that you can always find great open spaces to practice the very fine art of falling without the applause of an appreciative gallery.

"As we all know, the Club is a delightful spot during the summer months, but it is fascinating in an entirely different manner when the trees are merely a pattern of branches and the ground is covered with snow.

"When popular acclaim demands and warrants it, the possibilities for developed sports such as tobogganing and skiing on special slides leave little to be desired, and then of course it will be an easy matter to keep a portion of the ice open for use all through the winter."

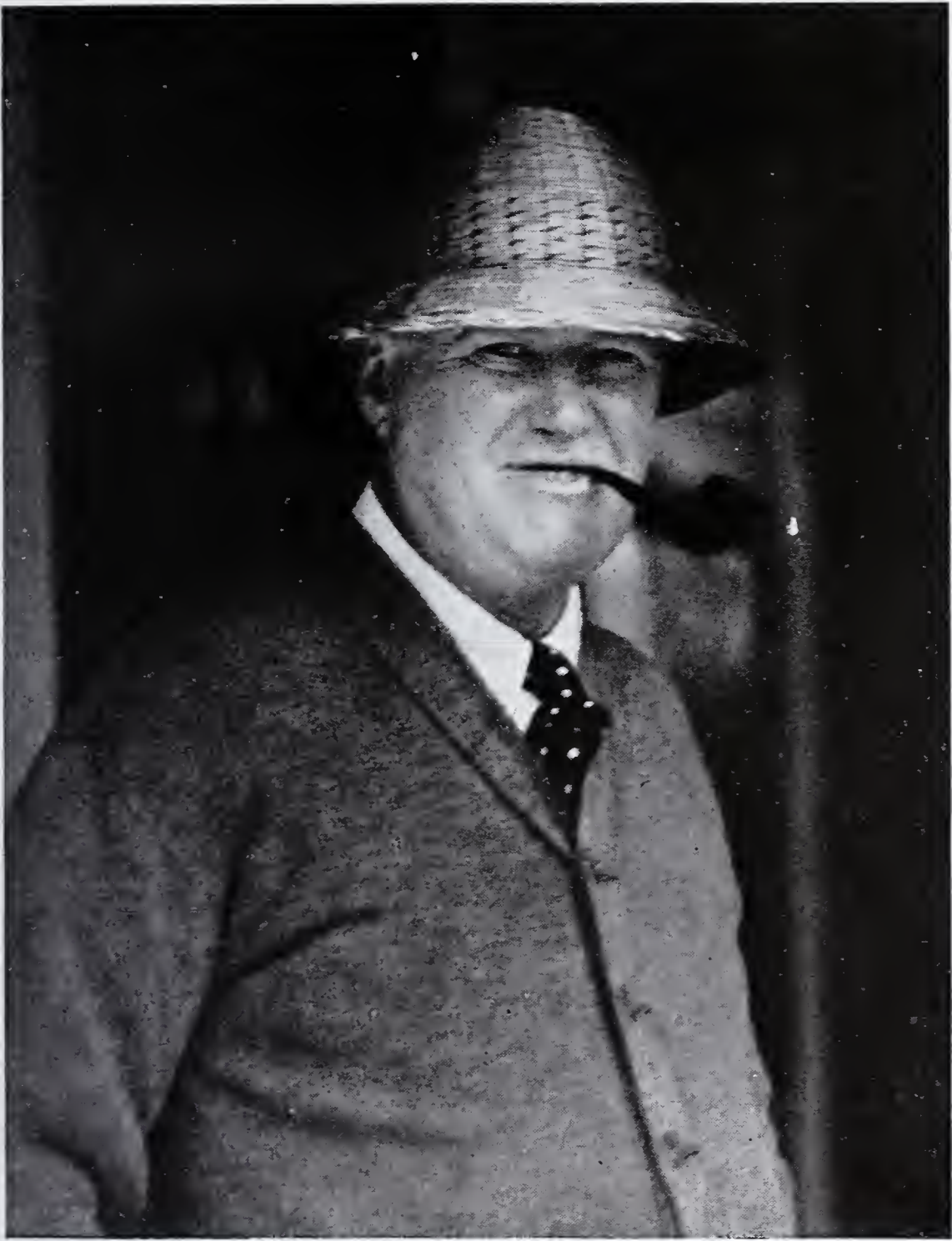
XVI

OUR MEMBERSHIP

IT has been thought that it might be of interest to include among our topics, that of membership; to tell something of the Club's ideals in this regard, and to show how it has endeavored to carry them out through all these years. Not that the eligibility requirements have at any time been made difficult, but there have always been maintained, as prime requisites, certain standards of responsibility and good conduct.

The Club was founded for its members and their families. It has always been in the best sense of the term a "family club" as distinguished from the heterogeneous nature and sometimes other unpleasant characteristics of the ordinary "country club," although we are not behind the times in the enjoyment of many improvements and luxuries of which our Club progenitors never dreamed.

Our first membership list included thirty names, many of which are still carried on our present roll by their sons and grandsons. And while it may be true that new blood is needed from time to time, we would be very loath to lose the old. In fact, as it stands, we are in slight danger in this respect when we can point to eight former members, the direct



H. C. Mansfield

PRESIDENT OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB. 1932

OUR MEMBERSHIP

descendants of whom are now occasionally represented at the Club by the fourth generation. These members were: Benjamin A. Williams, George N. Williams, Sr., Joseph Van Vleck, Francis Lahey, James A. Frame, John Graham, George B. Pelham and William A. Avis.

The first Membership Committee was appointed at the first Directors' meeting on August 7th, 1882, and consisted of Dr. Alexander Hadden, Edward G. Black, Dr. James V. S. Wooley and Robert Betty, respectively, the President, the Vice-President, the Clerk and the Treasurer.

The by-laws of The Forest Lake Club, or as it was called in the early days, The Forest Lake Association, were first printed and published in 1885. In them is found no rule as to the eligibility of members, but article XV of the by-laws as amended and published in 1920, states that "Any person of good moral character shall be eligible for membership," and it is assumed that this simple but definite prerequisite was the eligibility rule unwritten but understood by the founders. The further conditions to be observed by a prospective candidate for membership, such as the form of application, endorsement by proposer and seconder, the securing of an option to purchase a share of stock where regular membership is sought, etc., are governed by practically the same rulings as those found in the by-laws of 1885.

It cannot with justice be claimed that membership in the Club has always been at a premium, much as

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

we may exalt its privileges. And, especially in the earlier years, when the financial sledding was hard, there was a constant demand for new members, though the bars were at no time let down. In October, 1882, it was resolved to solicit associate members. These associate memberships were to be allowed to be turned in by the original subscribers in lieu of payment for their stock subscriptions, or stock subscriptions could be paid for in installments as the Board might direct. The first associate member, A. Wright Saltus, was elected November 20th, 1882, and, following his election, no record is found, nor mention made of any other memberships of this kind until February, 1901, nearly twenty years later. Mr. Saltus became a regular member in April, 1883. This long interval, when apparently no attempt was made to solicit associate members may be explained by the fact that in March, 1883, the capital stock was increased by seventy shares, so that regular memberships were more easily obtained, and of course were more desirable for the interests of the Club. This plan worked out so satisfactorily that within a few months after the above date there were fifty-one regular members on the rolls. In February, 1901, however, the Board passed a resolution allowing the acceptance of associate members and making both men and women eligible to such membership.

The question of the eligibility of women as members first came up in August, 1885, at which time an application for membership was received by the Board

OUR MEMBERSHIP

from Mrs. Barbara E. Donaldson, the widow of James H. Donaldson, who had been one of the charter members. The question was referred to the Executive Committee to take up with the Counsel of the Association and at the same time to ascertain what were the rights of the widows and heirs of a deceased member. Apparently, though the application above referred to was laid on the table at the time and no record is found of its future acceptance, no ruling was made against the eligibility of women, as appears from an opinion of counsel regarding the rights of the heirs of a deceased member. This is set forth in the by-laws, as published in 1889, as follows:

“In the event of the death of a member owning stock in the Association, the husband or widow and minor children, or a brother or sister if designated in his or her last will and testament, shall have the same rights and privileges, subject to all the by-laws, rules and regulations of the Association, including the payment of annual dues, as were enjoyed by the deceased member, for the term of one year from his or her decease, or until the membership share of stock shall have been disposed of by the legal representative of such deceased member.”

While the above quoted paragraph could not be construed as denying to women membership in the Club, yet no effort was made until 1919 to declare them eligible in a direct and forthright manner. In February of that year, however, the Executive Committee was instructed to take up and report at the

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next Board meeting a revision of the Constitution and By-Laws with respect to women becoming members and holding property in the Club. The Committee made its report on May 16th, 1919, recommending that women be admitted to membership and permitted to hold property as regular members; and so the little clause under Article XV in the revised by-laws, previously quoted, reading: "Any person of good moral character shall be eligible for membership," raised the barrier and "women's rights" were formally recognized.

Mrs. Mary F. Williams was the first woman member, she having been elected on May 21st, 1920. Within a few weeks, or on June 10th, Mrs. Mary Lahey and Mrs. Sara Conover Thomas became shareholding members. Mrs. Lillie L. Coster and Mrs. Mary E. Baird attained regular membership on August 17th, 1924. Miss Henrietta Walker became a shareholding member in August, 1926, and Mrs. William Archer was elected to full membership August 22nd, 1931.

Since 1901, associate members have been made welcome. In fact it became the rule to expect a prospective member to qualify by a status of associate for a year or two before making application for regular membership; and the idea has been that it is incumbent upon the associate to become a regular member within this time, provided he can obtain a share of stock. One can readily see how difficult it would be to carry out the above idea to the letter;

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not only because of the possible inability of the prospective member to obtain stock just when he wants it, but because other exigencies have sometimes arisen in the cases of desirable persons, making it necessary to carry them as associates beyond the usual period of time, which in 1906, had been limited to two years. The associate member, elected from year to year, enjoys all the privileges of regular membership, except voting rights, the ownership of property and the privilege of introducing guests.

The question as to just what constituted a member's family has quite often been brought up for discussion relative to Club charges. In May, 1922, the following interpretation and the one which at present stands, was made: "that wives, unmarried daughters and unmarried sons not more than 25 years of age be charged members' rates."

Up to the present time, there have been admitted to regular membership approximately 225 persons, about 100 of whom, having been admitted prior to 1901, did not serve the associate apprenticeship. On the other hand a considerable number elected to associate membership dropped out for one reason or another and never became share-holding members.

Of our present members, George N. Williams, Jr., heads the list in respect to the length of time of membership. Mr. Williams became a member in November, 1887. Next in order come George F. Pelham, in 1889, William T. Lahey, November, 1894, and Joseph Van Vleck, March, 1896. In point

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

of seniority respecting the length of time they have been coming to the Club, Charles S. MacGregor, who first came up in 1883, and Elmer R. Gregor, who arrived at the Club in 1884, hold the honors.

The Forest Lake Club has always taken a pardonable pride in the character of its membership and so, as a matter of information, not only to the present generation but to those who in after years may read this story, some data regarding a number of the men who were destined to become prominent in the Club's early history may be pertinent. The vocations of the thirty charter members showed considerable variety; and though business somewhat predominated, the professions, especially that of medicine, were well represented. There were seven physicians, four lawyers, one of whom was a Supreme Court Judge, one surveyor, one architect and one clergyman. And then, a few years later, begins a list of names of incoming members several of whom stand out as representative of present families. In November, 1886, the name of William A. Avis appears. In 1887, there are noted the following: William C. Davidson, George Mulligan, William Forster, George N. Williams, George N. Williams, Jr., Benjamin A. Williams, John Livingston, James A. Frame, Francis Lahey; in 1890, John Graham; in 1891, William Archer and Joseph Van Vleck. These names are set down in the hope that this casual survey will give the reader some glimpse of the foundations on which is built this structure called The Forest Lake Club.

OUR MEMBERSHIP

Let us go back for a moment to the medical profession. There was never an official Club Physician, although a resolution authorizing such an appointment was passed by the Board in June, 1901. Why this suggestion was not carried out does not appear. Perhaps with so many physicians as members, it was thought unnecessary. Two years before, however, Dr. Everett W. Gould, recently graduated from Medical School, had been invited to the Club to serve as the unofficial medico and he evidently proved to be so popular that future aspirants were discouraged. Just how much real service the doctor rendered is not in the books, but we do know that he surrendered unconditionally to the attractions of the place.

There have been, probably, during the summer seasons, few times, and then for only very short periods, when there was no physician at the Club who could be called upon in case of necessity; and while, in the earlier days the distance to the nearest town doctor seemed a long one, it can now be bridged in fifteen or twenty minutes, if necessary. An emergency medicine chest was fitted up by Dr. Gould and it is inventoried and replenished each season with the more commonly needed remedies.

And so, with builders, architects, business men, clergymen, lawyers and physicians always to be found among its members, The Forest Lake Club has to a great extent been a self-sufficient organization.

The Forest Lake Club is unique in many ways and

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

not the least of these is the fact that for a period of almost thirty-six years the annual dues remained at the original figure of \$25.00. This is the more remarkable because of the very moderate board and room rates charged throughout these many years. Beginning January 1st, 1890, an initiation fee of \$25.00 was established, this applying both to associate and regular members and a fee of \$10.00 was also required for the transfer of a share of stock. In March, 1891, the Board directed that a notice be given to stockholders of a proposed amendment to the by-laws changing the dues from \$25.00 to \$30.00 a year, but at a stockholders' meeting held April 16th of the same year this proposed amendment was laid on the table, and there it evidently remained; for it was not until February 1st, 1918, twenty-seven years later, that the annual dues were raised from \$25.00 to \$40.00. It is of some interest to record that it has always been the policy of the Board to attempt to take care of the fire insurance, taxes, interest on mortgages and the New York expense from the receipts from initiation fees and dues, and the time had arrived when it became absolutely necessary to increase these receipts.

In 1920, when it again became necessary to raise the dues, the Directors, on February 27th, adopted a resolution that from that date the annual dues for associate members be made \$50.00 and that on and after August 1st, 1920, the annual dues for regular members be raised to the same figure.

OUR MEMBERSHIP

A change in the initiation fees for associate members was made at an Executive Committee meeting on February 8th, 1922, raising them to \$50.00 and on an associate becoming a regular member an additional fee of \$25.00 was required. The Board also voted that dues should not be charged to estates, as, in the opinion of Club Counsel, membership terminated at the death of a member and the stock is not liable in itself for dues, and that the Treasurer be instructed to cancel any charges against estates for dues which were made February 1st, 1922, or prior thereto, and still remained unpaid. On February 16th, 1923, the Board passed a resolution increasing the dues of both regular and associate members in the amount of \$10.00 per annum, and shortly afterwards \$25.00 additional was added to take care of the Entertainment, Fish, Game and Forestry, and Church Committees, these three departments of the Club's activities having depended prior to this time on voluntary contributions.

The very moderate increase in the dues over a fifty-year period is illustrative of the policy of the Club to make membership therein exclusive and limited not by the interposition of a financial barrier, but only by selection as to character and general fitness.

Casual reference is made in several instances to some one of the Club's superintendents, though the records and length of service of a number of the earlier ones, as obtained from the Board's minutes,

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

are not very well defined. Some of the older members may recall the following names: John M. Williamson, Lafayette B. James, W. D. Nichols, Thomas D. Gale, Edward C. Winnie, F. A. Dam and John H. Gale. Of the later superintendents, however, most of our members will very well recall Albert L. Bishop, who rendered faithful service from about 1910 to 1920. Mr. Bishop was succeeded by the genial and ever-accommodating Charlie Sadler until about 1923, when our present superintendent, Frank Dexter, took charge.

Mr. Dexter was born within a few miles of the Club. As a small boy, he often drove an ox-team to the Club to deliver farm produce and he has been, therefore, an eye-witness of the Club's growth almost from its beginning. He is a veritable mine of information concerning this particular locality and has furnished valuable data for our history. In expressing an appreciation of the faithful and efficient services of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dexter, the writer feels that he voices the unanimous sentiment of our members.

XVII

SKETCHES

As we look back over the half century since the organization of The Forest Lake Club, the names, and, to some of us, the personalities of many of the members who were pre-eminent in its growth and progress stand out in memory. These men did valiant work. They were not fair-weather sailors, but able seamen, who weathered the ship through many storms.

In beginning these sketches, the name of the man who had so much to do with the actual founding of the Club, Dr. Alexander Hadden, comes first to mind. And then, without thought of priority or comparison, come the following: Charles R. Gregor, George B. Pelham, Alfred B. Ogden, John Davidson, John Livingston, Joseph Van Vleck, William Archer, John Graham, William A. Avis, Benjamin A. Williams, George N. Williams, James A. Frame, John D. Weston, James Baird.

Each of these men made his impress on the Club. Sometimes it took the form of financial assistance; again it was time and effort, as officer or committeeman, given generously and cheerfully, without thought of personal advantage, to the end that the purposes of the Club might be carried out.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

DOCTOR ALEXANDER HADDEN

As one who unquestionably took the chief part in its organization, Dr. Alexander Hadden may justly be called the "Father" of The Forest Lake Club.

Professionally, Dr. Hadden had attained considerable success. In addition to a lucrative private practice, he was for many years an attending physician at the Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, and he was one of the founders and on the attending staff of the North Eastern Dispensary, still situated in East 59th Street and to this day an outstanding charitable institution.

Dr. Hadden was the Club's first President, having been unanimously elected at a meeting of the Directors in 1882, and he continued to hold that office for twenty-three years. This long term of service speaks for itself. He had a strong personality, was outspoken but kindly withal and always had the welfare of the Club at heart no matter how rigorous his rulings might be.

The Board meetings in the early years, except during the summer season, were held at the residence of some one of the officers or directors; most frequently, over a period of several years, at the home of Dr. Hadden. A perusal of the minutes of these meetings tells a vivid story of his leadership. Very early in the history of the Club we have records of financial help extended by Dr. Hadden, and this continued at intervals up to the end of his life. He very gen-

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erously, at various times, allowed the interest on his notes and bonds to run indefinitely, and voluntarily reduced the rate of interest on more than one occasion. Indeed, his disinterestedness was an inspiration to other members and we find throughout the years, many examples of equal generosity and unselfishness.

Dr. Hadden was a lover of nature and possessed the poetic instinct to a considerable degree. In fact, he was quite apt at expressing himself in rhyme. When the question of building the dam at Forest Lake came up for discussion, Dr. Hadden did not at first take kindly to the idea, and on one occasion voiced his protest in a poem called "Friendly Advice," the last three verses of which follow:

"Don't stop the slow and turbid streams
That wind their way through bogs
In hopes to make some crystal lakes
That'll be mere pools for frogs.

Don't build on banks of stagnant pools
Your summer health resorts
Not e'en a shack for fishermen
Or lodge for way-side sports.

Mosquitoes there will hold their sway
And chant their little imps
While in the flesh of visitors
They plant their poisonous stings."

He himself was not fond of outdoor sports and was seemingly not always in sympathy with those who were so inclined. A long walk was much to be preferred, in the Doctor's eyes, to a tennis game, and

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

a favorite remark to the restless ones was, "With such wonderful air and such pure water, what more can you wish?" After all, this shows how intense was the Doctor's appreciation of the natural beauties and advantages of this bit of country that he and his friends had found and made their summer playground.

SKETCHES

ALFRED B. OGDEN

In the chapter entitled "Improvement of Grounds," considerable mention of Mr. Ogden has been made. Desiring to avoid repetition, the writer makes but a brief addition.

Mr. Ogden was a charter member of The Forest Lake Association, serving on its first Board of Directors and for several years thereafter. As Surveyor, Landscape Engineer and official Map-maker during the Association's early years, Mr. Ogden's services were invaluable. He delighted in his work and during his seasons at Forest Lake, was untiring in his devotion to it as the records show.

Mr. Ogden was a tall, handsome man, in personal appearance quite suggesting the artist, and the results of his labors are proof of his artistic ability. He was decidedly the out-of-doors man, very fond of trout fishing, and he was accustomed to travel all over the country to enjoy this sport.

Alfred B. Ogden stands out not only as a strong personality, but as one of the constructive pioneers of The Forest Lake Club.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

GEORGE B. PELHAM

George B. Pelham was one of the charter members of The Forest Lake Association. He was one of its first Directors, serving on the Board and also on the Executive Committee for several years.

In August of 1882, Mr. Pelham was appointed a member of the Committee on Buildings and Grounds and was the architect for the first unit or present center portion of the Club House. He also drew the plans for the south wing, but his death in 1889 prevented his completion of the final plans and details, which work was carried on by his son, Fred Pelham.

While living in England during his early years, Mr. Pelham had been a member of a rowing club; and so it was that rowing, as his particular hobby, continued to be his main diversion during his visits to Forest Lake, although fishing, as a pastime, was by no means neglected.

The records of the early years show George B. Pelham to have been a very active and valuable member of The Forest Lake Association and one who gave most generously of his time and ability to further its progress.

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CHARLES R. GREGOR

Charles R. Gregor was one of the fortunate persons who was induced by his friend and physician, Dr. Hadden, to go up to Corilla and try the fishing. An expert and enthusiastic angler, Mr. Gregor lost no time in joining the fishing group and shortly afterwards became a charter member of The Forest Lake Association, then in the process of organization.

Mr. Gregor took great interest in the affairs of the Club, serving on the Board continuously from 1888 to 1899, and as Vice-President of the Club from 1894 to 1899. His counsel was looked upon as wise and timely and his many acts of kindness were done in a quiet and unpretentious manner. Charles R. Gregor was a highly esteemed and useful member of The Forest Lake Association.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

JOHN DAVIDSON

John Davidson was one of the pioneers who blazed the way for us who now enjoy the comforts of our Club.

In his day the old stage with its spike team, which plied between the station and the Club House, took two hours to make the trip up the mountain. The seats were too large for two and too small for three. And, as the primitive shock-absorbers operated at that time, it was an arduous journey. In those days if one wanted a boat house, he built it himself. If there were too many stones in the paths, they were carefully gathered and a stone wall was made of them. If a tree obstructed the view of the lake, it was chopped down. This was the construction period and everyone worked at it.

Mr. Davidson served on the Board from 1886 to 1891, and during at least half of this period was Chairman of the Executive Committee.

John Davidson was a contemporary of Livingston, Frame, Benjamin and George Williams, Gregor, Hadden, Ogden and others who in the early eighties, through their energy, wisdom, foresight and broad vision, laid the foundations of what has proved to be a haven of rest and relaxation to us who toil in the big city.

John Davidson had a strong sense of humor. He loved to play practical jokes on his friends. In the evening, after a day spent in fishing on the lake, any

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unusual uproar in the "Muggins" room meant that he was playing pranks on his old cronies by manipulating the dominoes. Shouting from the billiard room was always advance notice from the elderly Mr. Williams, as he pounded his cue on the floor, of the gleeful pronouncement, "That was a John Davidson shot!"

His was a great spirit, which it is well to keep alive in these days.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

WILLIAM A. AVIS

When one attempts to draw a likeness of William A. Avis that will appeal to those who knew him and at the same time truly picture him to those who had not that pleasure, so many characteristics of his personality flash up in memory that it is difficult to begin the description.

From the time he joined The Forest Lake Club in November, 1887, until his death in 1918, he was the model of the devoted member. A devotion to the Club itself, yes—no task to be done, disagreeable or otherwise, but what he was at hand, ready to serve—but, outstanding, after all, was his devotion to his fellow members and his enduring friendship.

Mr. Avis served on the Board of Directors for many years. He was Treasurer for two years and, succeeding Dr. Hadden in 1905, became the second President of the Club, holding that office until 1907.

Some excerpts from the minutes of the Board meetings in the early days may help the sketch.

October 8, 1907—Vote of thanks tendered to retiring President, William A. Avis. Given great credit for prosperity of Club.

November 15, 1910—Mr. William A. Avis unanimously extended the privilege of the floor at Directors' meetings during ensuing year.

May 16, 1911—Mr. Avis elected Editor-in-chief to issue publication giving notes of interest pertaining to the Club. (Most likely a circuit of the Club

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House porch on any clear evening furnished many interesting items for this early tabloid.)

October 10, 1914—Mr. William A. Avis made Director Emeritus of the Board in appreciation of his faithful devotion to the interests of the Club and his wise counsel in Club affairs.

Not only was he loved and appreciated by his fellow workers in the Club, as shown by the above references, and in more concrete form by the presentation to him of a loving cup some years before his death, but he was endeared to every member of the Club—old and young alike. Who can forget his unlimited fund of stories, his instant wit—but always without sting—his proneness to break into rhyme?

Let us linger for a moment over the stories. They always had point, they frequently led in a definite direction and, when it came time to check up on the Gratuity Fund for which Mr. Avis was a collector without a rival, they invariably led to a successful "touch." The poor innocent victim would perhaps be sitting on the porch rail, enjoying his after dinner cigar, congratulating himself on his good fortune in having been invited to spend a few weeks at Forest Lake, and at peace with the world. Along the porch, with more or less apparent indirection but bearing unerringly upon his quarry, would sidle William A. Avis, wearing a most disarming smile and rubbing his bald head in the jerky, nervous manner so familiar to his friends. A slight witticism would start the story going and just as its

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climax most convulsed the listener, he would look up to find himself confronted with a list of names and figures which for the moment would mean nothing to him. A quick explanation and always an apology for having to approach one on such a disagreeable errand left nothing for one to do but—sign on the dotted line.

A letter was received from his son-in-law, Alexis Darling, in August, 1918, tendering to the Club the loving cup which had been presented by the Directors to Mr. Avis; the cup to be returned to the heirs should circumstances ever arise to make it impossible to continue to keep it on exhibition in the Club House. A suitable framed photograph of Mr. Avis was at the same time offered to the Club to be hung over the cup. The offer was gratefully accepted, and the cup and picture placed in the parlor of the Club, where they still remain.

A committee was appointed in August, 1918, of which William L. De Bost was chairman, to raise a fund and suggest a suitable memorial to Mr. Avis; and the project was consummated in May, 1919, by the erection of the sun dial which stands just north of the first tee of our golf links. The memorial was formally presented to the Club in August, 1919, and bears the following inscription: "Time passeth but memory lingereth always."

William A. Avis' death took something from The Forest Lake Club that could not be replaced.

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He had passed along the highway smilingly, often with jest and cheering word smoothing the path for those of his fellow travelers who possessed not his own courage and equanimity.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

JAMES A. FRAME

Inevitably, in discussing the by-gone days at the Club, there arises in memory a picture of James A. Frame.

He was one of that group of half a dozen men, all in the building trades, who came into the Club in the fall of 1887. He served on the Board for many years and in 1905 was elected to the Vice-Presidency, serving in that office until 1907, during the time that Mr. Avis was President.

Mention has been made of Mr. Frame's devotion to the success of the Sunday services. He was equally devoted to the welfare of the Club in general and filled with credit every office to which he was elected. He was one of the early members of the Fish and Game Committee, and rightly so, as he was an expert fisherman and intensely interested in the sport. "Frame's Island," in Wolf Lake, was so called because it was Mr. Frame's favorite spot for landing a bass. A stranger on hearing of this famous place might search in vain, for, after all, the island is but an unusual growth of lily pads well down the lake towards Fisherman's Landing; but not at all mythical to Mr. Frame.

As a Christian gentleman, Mr. Frame was not given to over-strong expressions of speech, but his "By cracky" and "Hokey smoke" which gave vent on

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occasion to his suppressed excitement will be readily recalled by those who knew him.

James A. Frame was a sterling character; hewing close to the line, not given to equivocation and putting into practice what he preached.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

JOHN LIVINGSTON

Over forty years ago, Dr. Alexander Hadden invited John Livingston to Forest Lake "to look over the place," as he felt sure Mr. Livingston "would like the country and enjoy the fishing." The invitation was accepted and early that same spring he and James A. Frame went up to the Club with Dr. Hadden. Several trips were made during the early season and so enthusiastic were the gentlemen that Mrs. Livingston decided that she wanted to see that wonderful place. But both her husband and Mr. Frame declared that it was "no place for women folks," probably having in mind the somewhat primitive accommodations existing at the time; however, she finally prevailed upon the men by saying "What is good enough for my husband is good enough for me." So on the next trip both wives accompanied their husbands, and the ladies, in turn, decided it was such a wonderful place that the children must share in it too. These first visits to the Club were made, apparently, in the spring of 1887, for it was in the fall of that year that Mr. Livingston became a member.

Mr. Livingston loved the Club, and as he was free of business responsibilities at that time, he spent many weeks and months helping to improve the place. He and John Davidson supervised the laying of pipes from the spring and the building of a reservoir. While Chairman of the Executive Committee,

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he was often up at dawn, driving about the country for milk, butter and eggs; for in those days it was hard to obtain the necessary supplies. Finally, a Mr. Perkins, an old farmer in the neighborhood, was prevailed upon to deliver the milk, but many times he was late and some rumbles of dissatisfaction would occasionally be heard.

Mr. Livingston served on the Board of Directors for many years and for several years was Chairman of the Executive Committee. He was also a member of the building committees when both the south and north wings were added to the original Club House.

Always an enthusiast in the sport, Mr. Livingston, by his large catches, established quite a reputation as an expert fisherman, as many of the older members may recall. He was also a member of the famous Muggins Club, some of the members of which continued this pastime during the winter at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Livingston in New York.

John Livingston well deserves his place among the loyal supporters and worthy members of The Forest Lake Club.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

GEORGE N. WILLIAMS

George N. Williams was one of a half dozen men who joined The Forest Lake Association in the fall of 1887, and became prominently identified with its activities. Mr. Williams was a Director of the Association and a member of the Executive Committee for a number of years, and was for three years its Landscape Engineer. He was one of the eight subscribers to the agreement to build the south extension and one of the original room owners. From the first he was an enthusiastic member of the Club. He foresaw its great possibilities and did everything in his power to advance its interests.

Mr. Williams' zeal as a religious leader, a virtue previously commented upon, was combined in nice balance with a robust and genial personality, and he had a pleasant word for everyone. He was not interested in fishing but used to enjoy an occasional bout with the oars, and although a man of unusual weight, did not balk at canoeing. Some of the older members may recall his stepping blithely into a diminutive canoe, appropriately called the "Pea-pod" and sinking her without a struggle.

George N. Williams did much for the Club over a period of many years and deserves to be rated as an outstanding member.

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BENJAMIN A. WILLIAMS

Benjamin A. Williams became a member of the Club in 1887, bringing his family there two years later, little realizing that at least three generations would continue to enjoy the place of his choice.

He was one of the promoters of both the south and north wings and for several years, as a member of the Executive Committee, was intimately connected with the management of the Club. When the question of a water supply for the Club House arose, he was among those who insisted that the water be piped from the present spring, rather than from the lake, as proposed. Mr. Williams assisted in developing the Sunday services and was deeply interested in the building of the Forest Lake dam.

During his later years he was unable to continue his active interest in the Club on account of his deafness, but Benjamin A. Williams will always be remembered for his kindly spirit, his generosity and his Christian fortitude.

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

JOHN GRAHAM

None of the charter members of The Forest Lake Club is living; but John Graham, now in his ninetyeth year, was one of our very early members, having joined the Club in September, 1890, when it was still known as The Forest Lake Association.

Mr. Graham was for many years very active in the affairs of the Club. He served on the Board of Directors from 1892 to 1898 and for five years was a member of the Executive Committee. His name appears as one of two auditors of the first published Treasurer's report in 1894 and again in the issue of the report for the following year. He also served as one of the Committee on Ways and Means for raising funds for the building of the north extension to the Club House and was one of the sixteen subscribers to that fund.

Mr. Graham was always fond of competitive games and his eyes would light up whenever a challenge was forthcoming. He toyed with the dominoes and often with his opponents in the "Muggins" room, and in the billiard room he chalked a wicked cue.

John Graham resigned from membership about 1904 but his immediate family is still actively represented by one of his sons, James Monroe Graham, and two daughters, Mrs. Henry S. Livingston and Mrs. H. Rodger Elgar.

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JOSEPH VAN VLECK

Joseph Van Vleck was the first of four generations of that name to be entertained at the Club House, three generations as members and the fourth still too young to be eligible.

Mr. Van Vleck became a member of the Association in the fall of 1891. He was thoroughly impressed with the possibilities of the place, and shortly afterwards bought the south wing rooms of A. B. Johnson, then the two rooms of the Scott Estate, the last two rooms held by the Club, and then the two rooms held by Mr. Minturn. Mr. Van Vleck served on the Board for many years and was Vice-President from 1900 to 1903.

He was one of the first golf enthusiasts and took part in the tournament held in the fall of 1899 over the famed but short-lived original course.

Joseph Van Vleck, by financial assistance and sound advice, was a supporter of any progressive move. He was a promoter of the north wing extension and joined heartily in the endeavor to interest the Club members in enlarging the then-called "Little Corilla."

HISTORY OF THE FOREST LAKE CLUB

WILLIAM ARCHER

The Archer name has been identified with The Forest Lake Club for over forty years, as it was in March, 1891, that William Archer became a member; and the Archer cottage, formerly the Marshall cottage, which Mr. Archer acquired in 1903, has been a landmark for almost as long. Mr. Archer served on the Board of Directors from 1902 until 1914 and was a member of the Executive Committee for the greater part of that period. He was also one of the sixteen subscribers to the building fund for the erection of the north wing extension.

William Archer's interest in the Club continued over a great many years, though his active participation in its affairs was largely limited to its formative period.

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JAMES BAIRD

James Baird, popularly known among his friends as "Jim," became an associate member of the Club in 1901 and a share-holding member in 1904. He was always an ardent worker for the Club's welfare, was one of the Directors for many years and Chairman of the Entertainment Committee for several seasons.

The Baird cottage was always a rallying point for the young people. It was seldom without guests and a likely place to find a lively party.

Many will remember Mr. Baird as aiding and abetting Mr. Frame in rounding up the guests for the Sunday service, acting, in a manner of speaking, as combination door keeper and usher; and he was equally zealous in gathering the people together for the regular Wednesday evening card game, although he himself seldom played. Pool and billiards were his favorite games and at these he was very skillful. He was also exceedingly fond of hunting and fishing.

He looked askance at golf during the first season it was played at the Club, but it is said that in the fall of that year when most of the guests had departed, he and his bosom companion, "Bill" Lahey, took up the game and with such results that they were able the following summer to give a very good account of themselves, often to the discomfiture of some of the younger players. When these two chose to put on a golf show, it was not only good, it was hilarious.

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Mr. Baird, unnecessarily assisting Mr. Lahey on and off the tee, in the manner of a prima donna being led before an audience, was a worth while vaudeville act, while the comments which passed between them should have demanded an admission price.

James Baird was for many years so much a feature of the Club's life, that his absence therefrom, when ill health finally compelled him to discontinue his visits to Forest Lake, was generally and sincerely regretted.

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JOHN D. WESTON

John D. Weston, a manufacturer, of Honesdale, Pa., became a member of The Forest Lake Club in June, 1905, was elected a Director in October of that year and served as President from 1911 to 1921.

In 1906, only a year after he became a member, Mr. Weston built a cottage on the site of the Ogden-Davidson cottage which had been destroyed by fire. This action on his part of immediately and closely identifying himself with the Club was characteristic of the man.

Mr. Weston was a business man first and last; he possessed a passion for detail and was ever zealous in keeping the financial ship floating on an even keel. Not only that, but he was most generous in giving financial aid from his own resources and for several years he advanced the money needed to start the Club House in operation for the season. During his term as President, Mr. Weston spent a great deal of time at the Club, and from early spring until late fall very few weeks went by that he was not there at least once in the seven days.

The Forest Lake Club expressed its appreciation of Mr. Weston by a complimentary dinner tendered him in August, 1921, at the time of his retirement as its President. It was a memorable event. The Club House was decorated elaborately both within and without; the piazza was converted into a garden of ferns, hemlocks and pines and at small tables ices

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were served. The dinner was held in the dining room of the Club. There was dancing between courses, with some special dancing by two of our younger guests, and the climax of the occasion was reached by the presentation of a silver service.

In memory one can still see him standing about in the Club foyer, smoking his cigar; immaculately dressed, erect of bearing, a handsome and distinguished figure.

A FINAL WORD

One of our members, and he not at all a sentimentalist, once observed to the writer, "The day I leave Forest Lake marks the end of the year for me." Probably many of us feel quite the same about it. With what regret we lift our boats and canoes from the water, stow away the tackle and spring the lock on the boat house door. That last round of golf! Yes, miraculously, it may lower our score; but even that hoped for event will not keep us from sighing just a little as we see the ball drop into the cup on the final green.

But we can carry back with us, often to muse over ere we return, many delightful scenes and incidents. We can see again, with the mind's eye, the peaks of the lower Catskills, looming out of the mists of the far horizon, as we actually viewed them from Mount Ogden. We can bring before us that splendid panorama of mountains and lakes and valleys that the outlook from Mount Hadden presents. We can see the full moon coming up over Corilla, the lengthening shadows of late afternoon increasing the glory of Forest Lake and the sun going down in splendor behind Wolf. We can recall brilliant, sparkling days when we tramped the trails, the excitement of playing the fighting three-pounder, the pleasures of picnicking in the woods and the thrill of the long drive straight down the fairway.

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Dwell on these things, ye sometime sojourners at Forest Lake. So doing, you will, at least for a time, banish the worries and smooth out the creases of care.

And now the writer brings his story to an end. Some one else may carry it on. But until such time as the next chapter is written, may the present one serve, on occasion, as a reference; may it help to point out the path for the future, and, if nothing more, may it revive many happy memories.

THE END



